

SUPPLEMENTARY NUMBER  
TO THE TWENTY-FOURTH VOLUME OF THE  
**MONTHLY MAGAZINE.**

VOL. 24, No. 166.]      JAN. 30, 1808.      [PRICE 1s. 6d.

HALF-YEARLY RETROSPECT OF DOMESTIC LITERATURE.

HISTORY.

IN looking back upon the literary productions of the last half-year, we find but two books of real consequence in this department. One is,

*"The History of the World, from the Reign of Alexander to that of Augustus,"* by Dr. GILLIES; comprehending a period of about three hundred years: and which Dr. Gillies calls the busiest in the annals of mankind. In five preliminary sections we have a survey of Alexander's conquests, and an estimate of his plans for their consolidation and improvement: comprising, so far as it can be known, the history of the nations which had been previously melted down into the mass of the Persian empire. The multitude of events, and the complications of history which crowd the page render any thing like analysis here, superfluous. It may be enough to say that the work is written with Dr. Gillies's known ability, and that it is a valuable accession to the library of the scholar.

The other work, which we shall notice more at length, is *"The History of the House of Austria,"* by Mr. COXE, in three volumes quarto. The House of Austria, it appears, formed a principal subject of his contemplation so long ago as the period of his travels in Switzerland, when the character and exploits of Rhodolph of Hapsburgh and his immediate successors arrested his attention. While resident at Vienna, the subject pressed more strongly on his mind, and from the rich stores of the Imperial library, and other sources of information, he collected abundant materials for biographical memoirs of the great founder of the family. Other travels and other publications suspended the design; and Mr. Coxe changed it for the *"Historical and Political State of Europe,"* in which the House of Austria was intended to form a conspicuous figure. This plan was however relinquished, but his collections for the Austrian History still continued to augment, particularly during two subsequent visits to Vienna. New literary pursuits still suspended without diverting his design; and the papers to

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which he obtained access while compiling the Memoirs of Sir Robert and Lord Walpole, swelled the mass of materials, and threw a new and interesting light on the modern period of the Austrian annals. At length he found leisure to turn his whole attention to a work which he had been unwilling to relinquish, though unable to complete; and the result of his labours is the book here offered to the public. The history itself presents a singular spectacle, of a family rising rapidly from the possession of dominions which form scarcely a speck in the map of Europe, to a stupendous height of power and splendour, equal, if not superior, to any preceding dignity. The house of Austria was the barrier that arrested the progress of the Mahometan hordes: and afterwards formed, for centuries, the great counterpoise to France in the political balance. At all times, says Mr. Coxe, and in all circumstances, Austria has been pre-eminent in peace as in arms; the court of Vienna has invariably been the great centre on which the vast machine of European policy has revolved. In the composition of the work we find no formal method of divisions and subdivisions adopted; Mr. Coxe has suffered himself to be carried by the stream of time, marking with sufficient distinctness the more important periods, and introducing in occasional pauses, reviews of the state of Europe, from which the reader may form a judgment of the progressive use, exterior connexions, and comparative greatness of the House of Austria. The History, he says, naturally closes with the death of Leopold the second; as it is not possible for an author, who values the reputation of candour and authenticity, to compile, from imperfect documents, and amidst the misrepresentations of passion and prejudice, a faithful account of those portentous revolutions which have totally changed the political relations and importance of Austria, and confounded all the ancient connexions of Europe. Such is the description which Mr. Coxe has himself given of his work, in a more extended form, in the Preface. His authorities, he adds, are

printed, manuscript, and oral. The first of these are found constantly referred to in their proper places. The sources of the last it was impossible always to disclose: where he could not do this, Mr. Coxe hopes for, and certainly deserves, that credit for integrity and good faith which he has always hitherto maintained. His manuscript authorities commence with the accession of Charles the Sixth, the principal of which he thus mentions:

"I have had the singular good fortune to obtain access to the papers of most of the British ministers at the court of Vienna, from 1714 to 1792. These are,

"I. The Letters of General Stanhope, Lord Cobham, General Cadogan, and Sir Luke Schaub, who were sent to Vienna to negotiate the Barrier Treaty. In the Walpole Papers.

"II. The Papers of St. Saphorin, a native of Switzerland, who was British agent at Vienna from 1720 to 1728. In the Walpole, Townshend, Hardwicke, and Waldegrave Papers.

"III. The Dispatches of Lord Waldegrave, during his embassy, from 1728 to 1730. In the Waldegrave Papers.

"IV. The Diplomatic Correspondence of Sir Thomas Robinson, afterwards Lord Grantham, during his long residence at Vienna, from 1730 to 1743, as well as at the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle, where he was plenipotentiary. In the Grantham papers.

"V. The Dispatches of Mr. Keith during his residence as British minister at Vienna, from 1747 to 1753. During this period he witnessed the breach of that alliance with England, which nature, gratitude, and political interests, had all contributed to cement; and that sinister union with France, which, however vaunted, however splendid and specious in its commencement, was the most fatal inheritance ever left by a sovereign to his successor, and the most prominent among the various causes which have led to the present humiliation of Austria and the pernicious aggrandizement of France.

"VI. But the documents of all others the most important, and without which I could not have completed the latter part of the history, are contained in the papers of his son, Sir Robert Murray Keith, which commence with 1772, terminate at the close of 1791, and comprise the latter part of the reign of Maria-Theresa, and those of Joseph and Leopold.

"VII. Besides these documents perused at Vienna, I have had recourse to

the extensive correspondence of the ministers at home, or ambassadors in foreign courts, contained in the Orford, Walpole, Townshend, Keene, Harrington, and other Collections, which are enumerated in the Prefaces to the Memoirs of Sir Robert and Lord Walpole.

"VIII. Other papers of later date, delicacy precludes us from particularizing.

On the subject of

POLITICS AND POLITICAL ECONOMY, We have scarcely any thing to notice of primary importance. The dismissal of his Majesty's late Ministers, the Catholic Emancipation, and the attack of the British upon Copenhagen, have been among the foremost topics of our political writers. The latter of these subjects has certainly excited the most serious consideration.

The Author of "*A Letter to the Right Honourable the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the Expediency and Propriety of regulating by Parliamentary Authority the Practice of Variolous Inoculation, with a View to the Extermination of the Small Pox,*" confirms his own arguments by references to the policy of our forefathers, who provided regulations in all cases of leprosy and general contagion, in conformity to the old maxim, *Salus populi suprema lex*.

The principal Tracts upon the subject of the Poor are such as have taken their rise from Mr. Whitebread's Bill. Mr. MALTHUS and Dr. JARROLD have both addressed their "*Letters*" to its author; Mr. BERNARD, his, to the Bishop of Durham.

Mr. BOWLES's "*Strictures on the Motions made in the Last Parliament,*" are marked by that same zeal which it has been more than once our lot to mention.

An animated pamphlet of another kind will be found in the "*Brief Considerations on the Test-Laws,*" in a Letter to Lord Viscount Milton, by a Clergyman of the Established Church.

Mr. WILSON's "*Letter to Lord Grenville,*" is, to say the least, unbecoming in its language.

THEOLOGY, MORAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

In Dr. ABBOT's "*Parochial Divinity,*" we have a volume of no less than twenty-seven Sermons, the subjects of which are various, but enforced with a zeal and earnestness which do great credit to the author's feelings. One of the best Sermons is the first, on the beauty of moral virtue.

Mr.



Mr. FELLOWES'S "*Body of Theology*," contains much that is both of interest and value. It appears to have borrowed, in a few instances, from the best parts of Butler and Barrow.

Nor are we less pleased to observe that the BISHOP of LONDON'S "*Tracts on various Subjects*," all of which have been published separate before, are now assembled in a volume. They consist of, 1. A Review of the Life and Character of Archbishop Secker. 2. An Exhortation to the religious Observance of Good Friday. 3. A Letter to the Inhabitants of Manchester. 4. An Essay towards a Plan for the more effectual Civilization of the Negro Slaves, on the Trust-Estate in Barbadoes. 5. Charge at the primary Visitation of the Diocese of London, in 1790. 6. Charge to the Clergy of the Diocese of London, in 1794. 7. A Letter to the Clergy of the Diocese of London, on the Profanation of the Lord's Day. 8. Charge to the Clergy of the Diocese of London, 1803. 9. A Letter to the Clergy of the Diocese of London, on the Neglect of kneeling at Church where the Liturgy directs it. 10. The beneficial Effects of Christianity on the Temporal Concerns of Mankind, proved from History and from Facts. 11. A Summary of the principal Evidences of the Truth and Divine Origin of the Christian Religion.

Dr. GRAVES'S "*Lectures on the Four Last Books of the Pentateuch*," discover a depth of research, and a judicious arrangement of materials, which reflect great credit on their author. They are divided into three parts. The first relating to the authenticity of the Pentateuch, and the truth of the history, both of common and miraculous events, contained in the four last books of it. The second is on the theological, moral, and political principles of the Mosaic law. The third contains a review of the chief objections which have been advanced against the divine original of the Mosaic law. The first and third parts consist of six lectures each; the second of only four.

Nor must we forget to speak of the BISHOP of GLOUCESTER'S "*Preparation for the Holy Order of Deacons*." It contains a sensible and pious elucidation of the question proposed to candidates for deacon's orders on being "moved by the Holy Ghost."

Here also we shall mention Mr. COLLYER'S "*Lectures on Scripture Facts*." They appear to have been laboriously

compiled, and contain a great deal that is instructive; but might have been greatly benefited by compression.

Mr. EVANSON'S "*Sermons*," appear to be those of a conscientious man, plain, rational, and of a practical tendency; though some of them are tinged with opinions not perfectly consonant to the doctrines of the established church. The Memoir of his Life, prefixed, however, evinces him to have been a man of disinterested views, who readily abandoned his ecclesiastical preferment, when longer possession of it militated with his conscience.

Among the more valuable of the "*Single Sermons*" which have been published, we may enumerate the BISHOP of MEATH'S "*at the Anniversary of the Magdalen Institution*;" Dr. BELL'S on the "*Education of the Poor*;" Dr. OSLOW'S "*On the Testimony of the Spirit of God in the Faithful*;" and Mr. BARKER'S "*At the Consecration of the Lord Bishop of Oxford*."

#### CLASSICAL LITERATURE.

Connected rather with this class than immediately belonging to it, is Dr. CLARKE'S "*Letter addressed to the Gentlemen of the British Museum*." It presents a brief view of the principal facts upon which the Alexandrian Cistern has been presumed to be the Sarcophagus of Alexander the Great; the ancient and modern evidences relating to which are placed on opposite pages, arranged in the form of question and answer. Having determined from Herodian that Alexander was buried in a ΣΟΡΟΣ, and from later evidence that similar cisterns were denominated σοφοί. Dr. Clarke proceeds to the testimony of Saint Augustine, that *Soros* and *Sarcophagus* were appellations for the same thing; adducing Juvenal's authority for giving the latter appellation to the receptacle of Alexander's body; and closing the evidence in both pages with the assertion, that the veneration of the people for the tomb of Alexander attached alike to the *Soros* of the ancient and the *Cistern* of the modern writers. It would be very easy to take exception to several parts of the additional evidence which is here given: but it may perhaps be enough to say, that the identity of the Cistern, as the real tomb, is still *sub judice*.

#### TOPOGRAPHY AND ANTIQUITIES.

"*Antiquities of Westminster; the Old Palace; St. Stephen's Chapel, &c. &c.*" by JOHN THOMAS SMITH.

Although the name of Smith appears

in the title of this work, the real author of the letter-press was Mr. Hawkins. A private quarrel induced the latter gentleman to withdraw his name, and as authors expect that the public should be patient listeners to all which interest themselves, we are presented with statements of the case on both sides. Mr. Smith tells *his* story in an advertisement; Mr. Hawkins *his* in an octavo pamphlet.

The ancient state of Westminster forms the first subject of inquiry in the volume; and the reader, having been made acquainted with its former limits, is accompanied by the pen of the author from Temple Bar to Privy Garden; and briefly instructed in the history of the different mansions and religious buildings by which the Strand and its neighbourhood were once occupied. The more curious paragraphs in this portion of introductory matter are probably those which relate to the busts of Henry VII. Henry VIII. and Bishop Fisher, originally placed in Whitehall Gateway.

On the subject of the Old Palace, Mr. Smith's information is extremely copious. He seems to have obtained it from every authentic source he could arrive at; and has illustrated his remarks, not only with sketches of the different ruins which are now remaining, but with copies of many old and valuable drawings. Among the relics at present in existence, he has pointed out a few remnants of the palace, at least as old as the time of Edward the Confessor; although we are not willing to include the Painted Chamber in the number, as that was certainly erected in the reign of Henry III. On the different offices and appendages, the injuries, the alterations, and the re-buildings of the Palace, we have all that is supplied by ancient documents, arriving in the seventy-second page at *St. Stephen's Chapel*, the principal object of the volume.

The assertion of Hatton, in the New View of London, that St. Stephen's Chapel was originally erected by King Stephen in 1141, appears to have been acquiesced in by the generality of subsequent writers who have written on its history. On better evidence, however, Mr. Smith assures us, it is known to have been existing as early as the time of John, who in the seventh year of his reign, 1206, granted to Baldwin de London the chapelship; and, in the 20th, 24th, 27th, 29th, 32d, and 34th years of his successor, we find it an object of elegant and expensive decoration, in the

extracts from the clause rolls cited in Lord Orford's *Anecdotes of Painting*.

The alterations and improvements which were made in it during the reign of Edward the First, are given in translated transcripts from eleven ancient rolls which remain in the Exchequer. They relate principally to the wages of the masons, smiths, squarers of stone, carpenters, plumbers, painters, and other workmen employed about the building. There are also many charges which explain the cost of the materials; and some which, by the enumeration of particular items, decidedly prove the use of oil in painting so early as the 20th of Edward the First. In this state, as repaired by Edward I. the chapel seems to have remained till the beginning of the reign of Edward the Third, when, probably, more with a view of enlarging and rendering it more splendid, than because it stood in need of any thing more than a slight repair, that prince determined to pull it down, and erect one far more sumptuous on the spot. Mr. Smith carries the commencement of re-building in the present instance as far back as 1330; correcting Stow in various particulars, and observing, that, for the necessary supply of artists, commissions were issued to various persons, authorizing them to procure such as were wanted; and reciting powers for arresting and keeping in prison all such as should oppose the execution of the different mandates. The charter of endowment, however, was not granted till 1348. Having enumerated the different temporal and spiritual possessions by which the dean and canons were supported, as well as all the benefactions which are recorded of a minor kind, we come to a list of the deans, followed afterwards by some remarks arising out of the use to which the chapel has been since applied. The description of the building, as it stood at the time the late repairs were undertaken, is too long and too curious to admit of an abridgment here; though we must not pass entirely unnoticed the particulars which are recorded of the first progress of its erection. In one of the earliest rolls of expences, commencing with the 4th year of Edward the Third, it seems that models and designs were prepared by the principal mason, whose name was Thomas of Canterbury. Of the rolls themselves which relate to this reign, the value and importance will sufficiently appear from their supplying us with intelligence, not only as to the price



price of labour and materials, but even of the manner in which the latter were worked. From the first part of these accounts we learn, that the stone which was used came principally from Caen, Ryegate, and Portland. From others, which relate to the glaziers and painters on glass, it appears that the material was brought to the chapel in an unprepared state for use, and not only cut and joined, but even drawn upon and painted on the spot. The same also appears in regard to the paintings on the walls, the different colours of which were ground and tempered at the building. From the different items, the generality of the masons appear to have had from 4d. to 5½d. a day; the scaffold-makers 3½d.; the plasterers and carpenters 4d.; the men who made the stalls 5d. and 6d.; the master glaziers 1s.; the working glaziers 6d.; the colour-grinders 4½d.; and the painters on glass 7d. The paviors 5d.; the labourers of the lower class 2½d. and 3d.; and the painters of the tabernacles 6d. 7d. and even 10d. a day each. All of them higher in proportion than the wages which occur upon the rolls of Edward the First's time.

No fair idea, however, can be formed of the cost of the whole undertaking, nor even any average of the weekly expenditure.

The plates, which are executed in different styles, do great credit to the artists employed. Some of them are richly coloured; and the work, altogether, is highly deserving of encouragement.

As a book not only of recent but correct description we mention "*The New Picture of Scotland*," in two small volumes. Instead of dividing the kingdom into counties or shires, the distinction of tours or roads is adopted; so that the traveller who may use this publication for his guide, will find the route he is pursuing, the stages, distances, antiquities, curiosities, historical memoranda and beauties, in one continued uninterrupted line, without being obliged to turn for different counties to different and unconnected parts of the work.

In the "*Historical and descriptive Account of the Town of Lancaster*," we do not find much more than might be expected in an ordinary Guide. What is related of its present condition seems, generally speaking, correct: although there may not be any good authority for saying that "The county of Lancaster is supposed to have been first settled by a colony of the Cetta, about five hundred years before the birth of Christ." The

most curious part of this little volume is probably that which relates to the Roman antiquities which have been found at different times within the limits of the town. It is accompanied by an ancient and a modern plan of Lancaster, a plan of the castle, and a wood engraving of a Roman milliare.

With the fourth volume of Mr. MALCOLM'S "*Londinium Redivivum*," we must confess ourselves less pleased than with its three precursors. The most curious of the numerous articles which compose it, are probably those on the Fire of London, on St. Martin's Ludgate, St. Olave's Jewry, and St. Mary-le-Strand: but there is a prolixity in the details which tends, we think, to make it more a book for reference than reading. Mr. Malcolm, however, has evinced his industry as a collector of materials.

Mr. INGRAM'S "*Inaugural Lecture, at Oxford, on the Study of Anglo-Saxon Literature*," will be found well worthy the attention of the antiquary. It is the first work, for the production of which we are indebted to Dr. Rawlinson's endowment. The following are the material points which Mr. Ingram appears to have pressed upon his audience in favour and recommendation of Anglo-Saxon Literature. First, that the study of it has never been neglected or vilified by men of learning, but, on the contrary, uniformly cultivated and promoted. In the second place, he enlarges on the inducements to its cultivation. And in the third, suggests, that it is not only of particular importance to Englishmen, but even capable of being made a subject of general interest in the pursuit of universal knowledge; and that it may serve as a medium of illustration to those who are disposed to study and investigate the philosophical principles of grammar and the true theory of language.

Under the first head Mr. Ingram briefly traces the encouragement which Anglo-Saxon Literature has received from time to time, not only among our monastic institutions antecedent to the reformation, but subsequently. Among its zealous promoters in the sixteenth century he enumerates Ieland, Lambard, Archbishop Parker, Bale, Dr. Laurence Nowell, Dr. Keyes, and Fox the martyrologist. Among those of the seventeenth, Sir Edward Coke, Camden, Selden, Sir Symonds D'Ewes, Sir Robert Cotton, the Spelmans, Wheloc, Somner, and Franciscus Junius; followed at a later period by Wanley, Bishop Gibson, Dr. Mill,

Sir Andrew Fountaine, Dr. Wilkins, Bishop Nicholson, Lye, Tyrwhitt, Warton, and others.

Having stated that four-fifths, or at least three-fourths of the words in our language are still Saxon, Mr. Ingram proceeds to consider how far the study of Anglo-Saxon Literature is connected with the original establishment of our *Laws*, our *Liberty*, and our *Religion*: closing with some judicious remarks on its indispensable utility in elucidating our national Antiquities.

The Appendix, besides some extracts from the Will of Dr. Rawlinson, who founded the Anglo-Saxon Professorship, contains some particulars concerning the Professorship founded at Cambridge by Sir Henry Spelman; some Observations on the Saxon Gospels; some specimens of the Saxon compared with the English Language; with the Saxon, Gothic, Runic, and Islandic Alphabets: which are again followed by The Geography of Europe, extracted from king Alfred's Anglo-Saxon Version of Orosius, accompanied by a Translation and Notes.

#### FINE ARTS.

Whether the removal of Mr. LANDSEER, as a Lecturer, from the Royal Institution was a just or an unjust, an expedient or an unexpedient measure, it is not for us to enquire; thus much is evident, that the public have been losers by the contraction of his Course of "*Lectures on the Art of Engraving*."

The limits of a short Retrospect will very far from allow a full examination of the six Lectures he has published. We can only give a general notion of their contents.

Engraving, in an extensive sense, is amply treated in the two first; and represented as the earliest mode which the mind suggested, and the hand of man attained, of imparting useful information, and of displaying ornamental art. In the first, the various incisions of the ancients, on their personal ornaments and public monuments, among the Chaldeans, the Jews, the Hindoos, the Egyptians, Sidonians, Greeks and Romans, are particularly enquired into. In the second Lecture, the art of die-engraving is considered, with the history of ancient seals, followed by a transition to engraved sepulchral monuments which appear to have been introduced about the thirteenth century, and from which the kind of engraving that is more especially the object of the Lectures appears to have arisen. In the third Lecture, Mr. Landseer gives, as a

proper interposition between the history of the ancient and modern modes of engraving, some explanation of the respective local powers and susceptibilities of the latter, as well as of such technical terms as appertain to the art, as it is exercised at present: including the different styles and improvements. At the opening of the fourth Lecture we arrive at the discovery and promulgation of the means of printing engravings on paper. "Notwithstanding (Mr. Landseer observes) that engraving on various metals had long been practised, the earliest mode of printing on paper, was from the surfaces of engraved blocks or tablets of wood. Guttemberg of Mentz, or Faust of Strasbourg, first promulgated this art about the year 1440, or between that time and 1450; and their respective partizans, have contended for annexing a degree of celebrity to their names, to which, as inventors, neither of them is fairly entitled. Extremely rude outlines of saints and legendary tales had previously been engraven, apparently with the view of exciting the attention of the vulgar, and had been a mode, (which no person at the time thought of turning to better account) of disseminating monkish superstition. Of these, some few collected in Germany, are preserved in the curious and valuable libraries of lord Spenser and Mr. Douce, to some of which, the names and legends of the saints, &c. are added for the better information of the unlearned spectator: and it seems more than probable that these alphabetical additions, which are in the old German black letter, gave the first idea to Guttemberg, Faust, or Koster, of printing books; for precisely in this way, and not from moveable types, were books originally engraven and printed; and I believe they are so printed in China to this day. One of the earliest of Koster's books, that I have seen, is of this kind, and contains a much larger portion of picture (if so it might be called) than reading. It is in the Cracherode Collection, which is now open to the public, and consists of sixteen leaves, each containing two subjects illustrative of Solomon's Song; it is printed only on one side of the paper; shadowing with a single course of lines is feebly attempted, and under each print is a Latin scroll or label, cut in German text on the same block. But there is a somewhat older book in the Bodleian Library, and another in the bibliographical collection of my Lord Spenser, of which the subject is the Apocalypse, and where colour is clumsily



clumsily added with the hair-pencil, though without any attempt at gradation of light, and in the manner of old playing-cards. Baron Heinnekin, with great probability, thinks that the painters of the playing-cards, were really the first European printers, that they devised the method of cutting the kings, queens, &c. upon wood, to save the trouble of making a separate drawing for each card; and that they also cut the single prints of religious subjects I have just mentioned, of which he found one of a folio size, and dated so early as the year 1423, pasted into a book in the library of a convent at Buxheim near Memmingen. This curious print, supposed to be the oldest extant, having been lately purchased by Lord Spencer, is now on its way to England, and will very soon find its proper place in his valuable collection: meanwhile the noble earl has kindly enabled me to shew you a fac-simile of this ancient print, which was cut a few years ago, and has also allowed me to remove from his library a still greater curiosity for your inspection. It is one of the original blocks which was used in the very infancy of printing, before moveable types were invented, and before shadowing was even feebly indicated. Of the history and Visions of St. John the Divine, no fewer than six editions were thus engraven and printed at this early period, and the impressions from the block I have now the honour to exhibit, constituted according to Baron Heinnekin, the second leaf of the second edition, of which there is a copy in the royal library at Buckingham-house: it is probably, therefore, one of the earliest engravings on wood that were ever performed, and perhaps the oldest that is now extant.

"Hence it appears that the art of engraving on wood, was the parent of that of printing from the surface, and with the letter-press. To the art of printing with the rolling press, or of delivering ink from the incisions of the graver, it has in like manner been disputed among the curious, whether Italy or Germany, and whether accident or design had the honour of giving birth.

"Italy rests her pretensions on the following circumstances recorded by Vasari. It is known to be common with those who engrave ornaments on plate, occasionally to rub a little charcoal or oil, or both, into their work, for the purpose of seeing the better what they are about. In the year 1460, Maso or Thomaso Finiguerra, a goldsmith of Florence, chanced to cast or let fall a piece of en-

graving thus filled with this sort of ink, into melted sulphur; and observing that the exact impression of his work was left on the sulphur, repeated the experiment on moistened paper, rolling it gently with a roller. It was attended with success, and Finiguerra, imparting his discovery to Baccio Baldini, of the same place and profession, it was by him communicated to Sandro Boticeili, and perhaps also to Antonio Pollajuoli, and Andrea Mantegna.

"At this time the intercourse between Italy and Germany, was much less frequent and considerable, than it soon afterward became; and Mr. Strutt has on the other hand produced a German print from the collection of the late Dr. Monro, of which the date is 1461, and says we have several other engravings by the same master, and that the impressions are so neatly taken from the plates, that they could not be done much better even at present, whence he concludes that they were not the first specimens of copper-plate printing.

"The print which is reputed to be the oldest in the Cracherode collection, is evidently by the same engraver as this of Dr. Monro, and appears too highly finished and too well printed to be really one of the first: the same collection contains, however, another print from a copper or silver plate, which I should suppose to be of a still earlier date: It is in a very inferior style, full of contradiction in the perspective, and error in the drawing of the figures; and the angularity, meagreness, and painful attention to minutiae, that characterise the productions of the early German artists are excessive. Its subject is Augustus and the Sybil, and the emperor's diadem, (which is elaborately wrought), as well as the profusion of finery about his dress, seem to point toward the goldsmith's shop, as its origin."

The specimen we have here exhibited, will at least evince Mr. Landseer's industry in tracing the authentic history of his art. The remainder of the fourth Lecture is principally devoted to an examination of the early German engravings; particularly in the books of Martin Schöner and Albert Dürer.

The fifth Lecture comprises the rise, and early progress of engraving in modern Italy, under the patronage of the Medici. Baldini, Boticeili, and Pollajuoli are the first artists recorded in it. On the works of Mantegna, of which the remains are more numerous than those of his predecessors, Mr. Landseer enlarges: and con-

siders

siders those of Marc Antonio as distinguishing a memorable æra in the art: closing with a few remarks on the uses of modern Engraving, and on the prevalence of certain popular mistakes respecting those uses.

The sixth Lecture is divided under two heads: first, the auspices under which the art of Engraving has hitherto existed in England: secondly, the means which have been resorted to for its cultivation; including a consideration of those advantages which have been withheld from it. Here perhaps we might have been better pleased with the continuation of historical detail, than the introduction of controverted fact: though few will be so hardy as to deny the truth of some of the Lecturer's remarks.

#### JURISPRUDENCE.

In "*The Law of Shipping and Navigation, from the Time of Edward III. to the End of the Year 1806*," by Mr. REEVES, we have a very useful manual. It comprizes, in fact, a History of what are usually termed *the Acts of Navigation*; which is properly divided into three periods: the first, containing the laws made from the earliest appearance of any such, down to and including the act of navigation made in 1651, during the time of the Commonwealth. The second commencing with the famous act of navigation passed in the twelfth year of Charles the Second, and containing all the laws passed down to the time of making the peace in 1783. The third, commencing after the peace, and containing all the laws which have been made down to the year 1806.

Mr. COMYN'S "*Treatise on the Law relative to Contracts and Agreements not under Seal*," will be found one of the most useful for professional practitioners which has appeared. It is accompanied by Cases and Decisions.

Mr. DILLON'S "*Essay on the History and Effects of the Coronation Oath*," appears to have arisen out of recent circumstances. It is intended as an attempt to prove that the effects of that most solemn obligation are not to impede in any respect the exercise of the royal prerogative, in assenting to any bill proposed by parliament for the further relief of his majesty's catholic subjects.

#### BIOGRAPHY.

In this class we have not so many works to mention as usual.

Mr. PENNINGTON'S "*Life of Mrs. Carter*," exhibits a singular instance of a woman possessing extensive learning, at a time when, generally speaking, fe-

male accomplishment was but of rare occurrence. She was born in 1717; and beside the languages which are generally called "learned," understood the French, Italian, Spanish, German, and Hebrew. In 1738 she commenced author, by publishing a small volume of Poems. She also supplied two papers to Dr. Johnson's Rambler; translated one or two works from the Italian, and Epictetus from the Greek. Her life, like that of the generality of scholars, appears to have been but little chequered in its incidents; and Mr. Pennington would probably have given the memoir of it greater interest if he had compressed his materials. Having lived to the advanced age of eighty-eight, Mrs. Carter died in Clarges-street, February the 19th, 1806. The Essays in Prose, together with her Notes on the Bible, and Answers to Objections concerning the Christian Religion, subjoined to the Life, add nothing new to Mrs. Carter's reputation.

A more interesting work will probably be found in Mr. RITCHIE'S "*Account of the Life and Writings of David Hume*."

In the "*Life of Thuanus*," the illustrious historian of France, we have a third specimen of Biography, by Mr. COLLINSON, of Queen's College, Oxford. Thuanus, who was the son of the first president of the parliament of Paris, left behind him a History of the World, from 1545 to 1603, written in very elegant Latin. It was printed several times in different countries abroad, but never once without castrations, Thuanus having delivered the truth too boldly. In 1733, the first publication of it agreeably to the author's copy was printed, at the expence of Dr. Mead, in seven volumes folio. To the lovers of history and Thuanus, the Life here given will prove an acceptable present.

#### VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

If the order of time is to be considered, the first work entitled to notice in this class must be the "*Travels of BERTRAND DE LA BROCCQUIERE, Counsellor and first Esquire-Carver to Philippe le bon Duke of Burgundy*." They were extracted from a manuscript in the National Library at Paris, as well as put into modern French, by M. Le Grand d'Aussy, and are here translated by the same gentleman to whom the world is already indebted for English Versions of Froissart and Joinville. The first object of the traveller was a pilgrimage of devotion to Palestine; but falling sick at Jerusalem, he conceived a project which certainly gives



gives peculiar interest to the latter part of his narration; it was no less than that of travelling back to France by land. After a variety of difficulties and discouragements, he completed his intention in 1433; recording the particulars of his travels at the express desire of the duke his master. The journey from Ghent across the Apennines to Venice, and from Venice to Jaffa, in a galley, affords scarcely any thing to interest. At Jerusalem, after performing the customary pilgrimages, La Brocquiere performed with his companions those to the mountain where our Saviour fasted forty days; to the Jordan, where he was baptized; to the church of Saint John, near to that river; to that of Saint Martha and Saint Mary Magdalen, where our Lord raised Lazarus from the dead; to Bethlehem, where he was born; to the birth-place of St. John the Baptist; to the House of Zachariah; and, lastly, to the Holy Cross, where the tree grew that formed the real cross. "For the information of others, says La Brocquiere, "who like myself may wish to visit this country, I shall say, that the custom (in going farther into Palestine) is to treat with the chief interpreter at Jerusalem, who receives a tax for the sultan, and one for himself, and then sends to inform the interpreter at Gaza, who in his turn negotiates a passage with the Arabians of the desert. These Arabs enjoy the right of conducting pilgrims; and, as they are not always under due subjection to the sultan, their camels must be used, which they let to hire at ten ducats a head." Damascus is still more particularly described than Jerusalem; though La Brocquiere seems to have received no favourable impressions of the inhabitants. From Damascus, having parted with his friends who had hitherto accompanied him, he set out upon his meditated journey, having in the first instance only a moucre (or Mameluke guide) for his companion: but joining a caravan, he proceeded onward in company. "On the road (says our author) I made acquaintance with some of my fellow-travellers, who, when they found out that I lodged with a Frank, came to ask me to procure them some wine. This liquor is forbidden them by their religion, and they dare not drink it before their own countrymen, but they hoped to do it without risk at the house of a Frank, and yet they were returning from Mecca! I spoke of it to my host Laurent; but he said he was afraid to comply, from the great danger he should

run were it known. I went to carry them this answer; but they had been more fortunate elsewhere, in procuring some at the house of a Greek. They proposed that I should accompany them to partake, whether from pure friendship or to authorize them to drink wine in the presence of the Greek. This man conducted us to a small gallery, where we all six seated ourselves in a circle on the floor. He first placed in the midst of us a large and handsome earthen jug, that might contain four gallons at least; he then brought for each of us a pot full of wine, which he poured into the jug, and placed beside it two earthen porringers to serve for glasses. The first who began drank to his companion, according to their custom; this did the same to the next, and so on to the others. We drank in this manner for a long time without eating; at length, I perceived that I could no longer continue it without suffering, and begged of them, with uplifted hands, to permit me to leave off; but they grew very angry, and complained as if I had been resolved to interrupt their pleasure and do them an injury. Fortunately there was one among them more acquainted with me than the rest, and who loved me so that he called me 'Kardays,' that is to say, Brother. He offered to take my place, and to drink for me when it should be my turn. This appeased them, and, having accepted the offer, the party continued until evening, when it was necessary for us to return to the khan." On leaving Syria, our traveller came to Antioch, at that time the capital of Turcomania; and afterwards traversed the country round the gulf of Asacs: but, at Bursa, in consequence of the zeal of a renegado slave, he was necessitated to separate himself from the caravan. Of Pera, which at that time belonged to the Genoese, we have a particular account; whence La Brocquiere crossed the haven to Constantinople. Here we have sufficient details to account for the successes of the Turks in 1453. The description of the empress, as La Brocquiere saw her, is entertaining. "She wore in her ears broad and flat rings, set with several precious stones, especially rubies. She looked young and fair, and handsomer than when I saw her in church. In one word, I should not have had a fault to find with her, had she not been painted, and assuredly she had not any need of it." The most important portion of the work, however, is that which relates to the policy, the mili-

tary tactics, and the conquests of the Turks. He speaks of the obedience of the soldiers to their superiors as boundless, and attributes the great exploits and vast conquests of the Turks in some measure to this submission. Their manner of fighting, he observes, varied according to circumstances; sometimes engaging in large bodies, and at others dividing themselves into different troops, attacking many parts of an army at once, their force commonly consisting of two hundred thousand men. In his way homeward, La Brocquiere appears to have visited the salt-mines of Transylvania, proceeding through Hungary, by Vienna, Munich, Constance, and Basil, to Poitiers, which the Duke of Burgundy was then besieging. Such is the plain outline of the Esquire-Carver's Travels.

Another work, entitled to more than common attention, is the "*Journey from Madras through the Countries of Mysore, Canara, and Malabar*," by Dr. FRANCIS BUCHANAN, performed under the orders of the Marquis Wellesley. The author's instructions, which were dated February 24, 1800, directed him, as the first and most essential part of his mission, to remark the agriculture of the different districts he should pass through, in regard to their esculent vegetables, cattle, and farms. He was next to attend to the cultivation and preparation of their cotton, pepper, sandal-wood, and cardamoms; then to their mines, quarries, minerals, and mineral springs; to the climate and seasons of Mysore; and, lastly, to the condition of the inhabitants in general, in relation to their food, clothing, and habitations; and how far their condition in these respects may have been affected by the different changes in the government. A copy of Dr. Buchanan's manuscript Journal, containing the result of his inquiries, was transmitted to the Directors of the East-India Company, who thought the publication of it worthy the patronage of the Court. On April 23, 1800, Dr. Buchanan left Madras, passing through Conjeveram, Arcot, Vellore, Paligonda, Vencataghery, Catcolli, and Bangalore to Seringapatam, where he arrived May 17, the observations relating to which are comprised in the first chapter. In the second chapter we have an account of Seringapatam and its vicinity, enlivened by a description of its capture. In the third chapter Dr. Buchanan proceeds to Bangalore, which, as he resided in it from the 22d of June to the 2d of July, he describes

with some minuteness in the fourth. Chapter V. brings the Itinerary to Doda-Bala-Pura; and Chapter VI. (which completes the first volume) to Sira. In the seventh chapter, our author returns to Seringapatam, by Nagamangala and Tonura Cara. The eighth contains his journey through the part of Karnata south from the Cavery; the ninth, from the Kaveri-Pura Ghat to Coimbatore; and the tenth, from Coimbatore to the frontier of Malabar. The three remaining chapters of the second volume being dedicated to a copious description of the southern, central, and northern districts of Malabar. In the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth chapters, Dr. Buchanan proceeds through the entire province of Canara; whence, in the seventeenth, he pursues his route from the entrance into Karnata to Hyder-Nagara, through the principalities of Soonda and Ikeri; in the eighteenth, to Hercura, through the principalities of Ikeri and Chatraskal; in the nineteenth, to Seringapatam, through the western and middle parts of the Mysore dominions; and, in the twentieth, back from Seringapatam to Madras. The vast body of information which has been brought together in Dr. Buchanan's three volumes will no doubt be found of great practical utility; but we cannot help wishing, with the traveller himself, that a longer stay in England had allowed him time to have given his work a methodical arrangement. To give a more minute account of his travels here would exceed the limits of our Retrospect. As a specimen of his style and manner, we shall copy two short passages. One from the third chapter relates to the manner of forming a cocoa-nut garden. The other contains the description of Hyder-Nagara.

Vol. i. p. 155. "The manner of forming a new cocoa-nut garden is as follows: the nuts intended for seed must be allowed to ripen until they fall from the tree, and must then be dried in the open air for a month, without having the husk removed. A plot for a nursery is then dug to the depth of two feet, and the soil is allowed to dry three days. On the *Ugadi* feast (26th March) remove one foot of earth from the nursery, and cover the surface of the plot with eight inches of sand. On this place the nuts close to each other, with the end containing the eye uppermost. Cover them with three inches of sand and two of earth. If the supply of water be from a well, the plot must once a day be watered;



tered; but if a more copious supply can be had from a reservoir, one watering in three days is sufficient. In three months the seedlings are fit for being transplanted. By this time the garden must have been enclosed, and hoed to the depth of two feet. Holes are then dug, for the reception of the seedlings, at twenty feet distance from each other in all directions, for when planted nearer they do not thrive. The holes are two feet deep, and a cubit wide. At the bottom is put sand seven inches deep, and on this is placed the nut with the young tree adhering to it. Sand is now put in until it rises two inches above the nut, and then the hole is filled with earth and a little dung. Every day for three years, except when it rains, the young trees must have water. While the trees are young, the garden is cultivated for all kinds of Tarkari stuffs, which serves for weeding. When they have grown up, the ground is ploughed and cultivated for sugar-cane, betel-leaf, *Cara Batta*, rice, *Sesamum*, *Huts' Ella*, *Tadaguny*, *Carlay*, *Hessara*, *Udu*, *Huruli*, *Shamay*, *Navonay*, or *Ragy*, according as the soil is fitted for either of these crops. Mango and jack trees are also planted in these gardens, but greatly to their prejudice, for no cultivation can be carried on under these trees.

"The cocoa-nut palm begins to produce when seven or eight years old, and lives so long that its period of duration cannot easily be ascertained. I was shewn some that were said to have been planted by *Jacadeva Raya*, and the people believe that they will live for a thousand years. Young trees, however, produce most fruit, which comes forward at all seasons of the year. A good tree gives annually a hundred nuts. A few are cut green on account of the juice, which is used as drink; but by far the greater part is allowed to arrive at some degree of maturity, although not to full ripeness, for then the kernel would become useless. The cultivator in general removes both husk and shell, and sells nothing but the kernel to the merchants, as they transport them even so far as to Madras.

"The kernel of the cocoa-nut enters much into the food of the richer natives, both in its raw state, and dressed after various fashions; and it yields by far the finest oil of India, provided the nut is fresh, and the oil used soon after expression. The husks of the green coco-nuts are sold to the *Whalliaras* for making ropes, at the rate of two thousand the *Sultana Fanam* (about 3d.) but the husk

of the ripe nut is not fit for this purpose. At *Chinapatam*, *Tari*, or palm-wine, is never extracted from the cocoa-nut tree, as the practice injures its growth. Two old leaves in general fall from every tree, and each of these forms two of the mats which are used in thatching huts. These mats sell at sixty for the *Sultany Fanam*, and are put on as the first coat, which is afterwards covered with grass or straw; but in this neighbourhood thatched roofs are not much esteemed.

"Merchants from *Seringapatam*, *Bangalore*, *Colar*, *Ballapura*, *Hossocotay*, and *Devund-hully*, come here to purchase the produce of these gardens."

Vol. iii. p. 261. "NAGARA was originally called *Bidder-Hully*, or *Bamboo Village*, and consisted of a temple dedicated to *Nilcunta* (Blue-Neck, one of the titles of *Siva*) and surrounded by a few houses under the direction of a *Brahman* chief. *Sivuppa*, son of *Chica Suncana*, removed the seat of government from *Ikeri* to this place, and changed its name into *Bidderura*, or *Bamboo-Place*. The whole revenue of the country being then expended here, it immediately became a town of great magnitude and commerce. The situation is also favourable for trade, as the *Hosso Angady* pass, leading from *Mangalore* this way, is one of the best roads in the western mountains. The town is said to have contained 20,000 houses, besides a very great number of huts; but, on account of the inequality of the ground, could never have been closely built. It was defended by a circle of woods, hills, and fortified defiles, extending a great way in circumference, and containing many *bamboos*, from which the name of the place was derived. The space within these defences is much longer than was ever occupied by the city, and contained many hills, woods, gardens, and rice-fields. Toward the centre stood the *rajah's* palace, situated on a high hill, and surrounded by a citadel. To this *Hyder* added some new works; but, being commanded by some neighbouring hills, it never was capable of much defence. After *Hyder* took the town, its trade increased greatly; for he made it his principal arsenal, and employed many people in making arms and ammunition. He also continued the *Mint*, and much money was coined there during his reign. He gave great encouragement to merchants, and endeavoured to introduce the cultivation of mulberries and silk; but in this he had little or no success. On the

the outside of the fort he built a palace, and resided in it three years. On the invasion by General Matthews, the commandant of the fort, by way of showing an inclination to make an obstinate defence, burnt the palace; and the whole town shared the same fate, during an engagement which took place on Tippoo's coming up with his army. It is commonly reported by our officers, that General Matthews was surprized; and indeed, from his infatuated conduct, that would appear to have been the case; yet the people here say, that he had given them eight days previous notice of the probability of a siege, and of consequence they lost little more than their houses, as they had time to remove all their valuable effects. The palace was rebuilt by Tippoo, elated with the victory of which he made so cruel a use. But in the short time that has since intervened, it is now almost a ruin; for it is built entirely of mud and timber, and on these materials the excessive rains of this climate have so strong an effect, that, without a very complete repair once in three or four years, no building of this kind will stand for any length of time. Tippoo also re-established the mint and arsenal, and recalled the people; but a great many of them did not return, being under suspense for the event of the siege of Mangalore."

An Appendix contains, the report of the productions, commerce, and manufactures of the southern districts in Mal-  
leam (Malayalam) framed by the resident at Calicut, agreeably to the instructions of the commissioners appointed to inspect the countries ceded by Tippoo Sultan on the Malabar coast, comprised under three heads.

The work is also accompanied by a map, explanatory of the author's route, and a great number of engravings. Among the latter are some beautiful portraits of the Mysore princes, from drawings in the possession of the Marquis Wellesley.

#### AGRICULTURE.

Among the more easy and convenient vehicles of knowledge upon this subject, we place The County Reports, published under the superintendence of the Board of Agriculture, several of which have appeared within the last half-year.

One of the most able and elaborate of them occurs in the "*General View of the Agriculture of the County of Essex*," in two volumes, by the SECRETARY of the BOARD; in which many useful obser-

vations and descriptions will be found for the farmers of other districts, where improvement has made a slower progress.

The "*General View of Gloucestershire*," by the Rev. Mr. RUDGE, is accompanied, among other plates, by a map of the soil, and a plan of the Thames and Severn Canal Navigation.

Another of these valuable publications is the "*View of the Agriculture of Devon*," by Mr. VANCOUVER, who surveyed Cambridgeshire and Essex some years back.

But the latest of all is the "*View of Cheshire*," by Mr. HOLLAND; which, beside a clear and comprehensive view of the statistics and agriculture of the district, contains a curious and circumstantial detail of the natural history and manufacture of salt, no very satisfactory account of the present state of which had hitherto been published. A general view of the soils in the several districts surveyed is exhibited in a coloured map prefixed, in which blue denotes clay or clayey loam; yellow, sand or sandy loam; and red, heath, peat, moss, or marsh. Among the plates also we have a map of the minerals of Cheshire; a section of the strata sunk through to the second bed of rock-salt at Witton, near Northwich; and a view of the roofing of a rock salt-pit.

#### NATURAL HISTORY, MINERALOGY, &c.

The most prominent, as well as the most valuable work in this class, has appeared in the first volume of "*A History of Mountains, Geographical and Mineralogical*," by Mr. WILSON; "*accompanied by a Picturesque View of the principal Mountains of the World, in their respective Proportions of Height above the Level of the Sea*," by Mr. R. A. RIDDELL. The elevation of mountains has by some been deemed a subject of mere curiosity, or as one to which it was impossible to give the requisite precision. But, in the present advanced state of physical science, the author observes, it can scarcely be necessary to refute so erroneous an idea; for the consistency and truth of the various systems which have been framed relative to the structure of the earth, the composition of the atmosphere, and the different phenomena which continue to perplex the natural historian, are all likely to receive material elucidation, by delineating on one common scale of proportion those majestic and immoveable features of nature, which are so singularly accommodated to the varieties of their



their geographical position and the general economy of the globe.

The print, by which the work is accompanied, is the largest that has ever been engraved on one plate of copper, or printed on one sheet of paper, being four feet six inches by three feet, exclusive of margins. In the composition, such an arrangement has been adopted as seemed most likely to produce an agreeable picture, the different mountains being for the most part represented in the easy flow of an irregular or pyramidal shape. The obstacles to beauty of outline and general effect, with which Mr. Riddell must have had to combat, are more easily to be conceived than described. It was particularly requisite to avoid any indistinctness in the remote objects, yet to give general effect and distance to the aerial perspective, which the natural outline, representing all the mountains in certain proportions to each other from the foreground of the print, strictly denied. The boundary of perpetual congelation, varying according to its distance from the equator, was likewise too important a feature to be omitted, though attended with the disadvantage, not only of rendering it impossible to display that varied tone of colouring which such scenery might seem to demand, but also with the difficulty incident upon every attempt to represent great masses of snow, and yet preserve a general harmony throughout. The general similarity in their form, as well as the colouring appropriate to a scene of mountains, were additional difficulties. The base of the picture is supposed to be the level of the sea, from which the elevations of all the mountains are measured. On the plain in the centre is a groupe of buildings, upon the same scale of proportion with the mountains, comprising many of the greatest monuments of art. On the left are the principal mountains of Great-Britain and Ireland. On the same side are the mountains of America, terminating in the highest summit of the Andes, Chimboraco. On the right are the mountains of Europe, behind which rise those of Asia and Africa. In different parts are placed, at their proper elevation the highest inhabited places, and the sources of some principal rivers: forming altogether, a magnificent groupe, and resembling what a valley in the alps may be supposed to exhibit.

In the work itself, the established facts relating to the history of mountains, at present dispersed in a prodigious number

of works, are concentrated in one connected detail; without the adoption of any favourite system of geology. In the print, the chief mountains represented are those, the heights of which have been as correctly ascertained as circumstances have from time to time admitted. But as these form but a small proportion to the total number, it was necessary not only to say something on the general formation of mountains, but to describe with as much precision as possible the direction and continuity of the chains, with the topographical situation of each individual part. In the preliminary observations, the outlines of the science of Geology are briefly described under the following heads. Classification of mountains; general arrangements of chains of mountains; primary mountains; secondary mountains; mountains of transition; Neptunian, or secondary mountains; mountains of alluvion; volcanic mountains; internal heat of volcanoes; pseudo-volcanoes; decomposition of the component materials of mountains; decomposition and degradation of mountains; external characters of mountains; difference of climate produced by mountains; distinctions between the mountains of arid and rainy countries; vegetable physiology, declivities of mountains; and the lower term of perpetual congelation. Such are the heads of the few general observations which it was thought necessary should precede the details in the body of the work. These are followed by lists of the mountains of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America; arranged alphabetically, with their topographical positions, and the heights of such as have been measured. We then come to the more important opening of the work on physical geography in general. The description of the mountainous countries commencing on the shores of the Arctic Ocean, whence it proceeds with as much continuity as possible towards the south, preserving the divisions of kingdoms. The mountains of Norway, Sweden, Russia in Europe, Prussia, Bohemia, Gallitzia, Hungary, and Germany, are all that are comprized in the first volume. The strata, beauties, directions, and peculiarities of each are treated not only with perspicuity, distinct arrangement and connection of facts, but in a neat and sometimes elegant style. Mr. Wilson appears to have been delighted with his subject, and is apparently as accurate in his details as he had been before industrious in his enquiries. The second and third volumes may shortly be expected,

expected, when we hope to present our readers with a farther analysis of this most curious and interesting undertaking. We must, not, however, close our present observations without adverting to the circumstance of two gentlemen devoting the hours of honourable leisure to so arduous an undertaking. The taste and execution which Mr. Riddell has shewn in the composition of the *Print* deserve the highest eulogium.

#### MEDICINE.

Dr. HERDMAN'S "*Discourses on the Management of Infants and the Treatment of their Diseases*," will be found one of the most valuable works in this class: peculiarly useful to considerate mothers. The large proportion of the human race who die in infancy, as well as the prevalence not only of mistaken notions but absurd practices in the first treatment of children, are too notorious to be enlarged on here. In the second of the two *Discourses*, the *Diseases of Infants* are industriously traced to their several sources, their progress accurately delineated, and such modes of treatment as are warranted by a faithful adherence to the laws that regulate the animal economy clearly pointed out.

Another creditable volume will be found in Mr. BURNS'S "*Practical Observations on the Uterine Hemorrhage, with Remarks on the Management of the Placenta*."

#### POETRY.

Foremost in this Class we place "*Richmond Hill*," by THE AUTHOR OF THE *INDIAN ANTIQUITIES*; it is a descriptive and historical Poem, in two Cantos, illustrative of the principal objects viewed from that beautiful eminence. The Preface relates almost exclusively to the magnificent palace which was founded here by Henry VII. and the celebrated monastery founded by Henry the Fifth; at the time when Richmond had the name of *Sheen*: the particulars relating to both of which are taken from authentic documents, for the most part deposited in the British Museum.

The first Canto of the Poem is descriptive of scenes and objects surveyed in the immediate vicinity of Richmond Hill: whence we shall transcribe as a specimen those lines which relate to the ancient monastery.

"But not in splendid palaces alone,  
The pomp of Britain's scepter'd lords was shown—

Sacred to Heav'n, that, o'er the anointed head  
Its adamant shield in battle spread;

In *SHEEN* a stately fabric met the sight,  
Of old, the hoary anchorite's delight!  
And near, amid the groves for ever green,  
Richly endowed a costly fane was seen.  
In antique grandeur rose the spacious pile,  
And richest sculptures deck'd each cloister'd  
isle;

On the proud roofs, in air sublimely rais'd,  
The eye with pain, yet still with rapture,  
gazed.

High tower'd the gothic arch; and through  
the dome,

Dark clustering columns shed a twilight  
gloom:—

Save when yon fervid orb's pervading rays  
Lighted the pictur'd window's crimson blaze—  
While from the lofty walls, suspended wave  
The spoils of war, and banners of the brave!  
Statues of saints, for suffering worth renown'd,  
In massy silver seem'd to breathe around;  
Unbounded wealth the gorgeous shrine o'er-  
flow'd,

That with the richest gems of Asia glow'd;  
For many a pilgrim, from its distant shore,  
To that famed shrine his hoarded treasure  
bore.

Refulgent shone the storied roofs—array'd,  
In all the blended pomp of light and shade;  
While gold and azure charm'd the wond'ring  
eyes,

And cherubs floated in cerulian skies!  
A master's hand had sketch'd the bold de-  
sign,

The fire of genius mark'd each glowing line;  
Devotion's brightest symbols flam'd above  
The dazzling wonders of Redeeming Love:  
The star whose light, by eastern sects adored,  
Its hallow'd blaze on humble Bethlem pour'd;  
The Dove, resplendent with the silver wings,  
That hov'ring paused o'er Jordan's sacred  
springs;

And settling on the Saviour's lowly head,  
Bright as a thousand suns, its glory shed!  
All that in faith transports, in virtue charms,  
All that in guilt the shudd'ring soul alarms;  
Heav'n's radiant visions, bursting on the sight,  
The dark, drear horrors of Cimmerian night,  
Extatic raptures—agonizing woe—  
By Fancy's daring pencil taught to flow,  
On the proud roofs, in brilliant tints pourtray'd,  
Or on the breathing walls, the eye survey'd;  
While from the rich illumin'd windows  
beam'd,

As the meridian blaze unbounded stream'd,  
With all the rainbow's varied beauty bright  
Flow'd the rich torrent of reflected light—  
Full on the altar flam'd the fervid ray,  
And ope'd a gleam of heav'n's eternal day.  
With transport warm'd, with sacred awe op-  
press'd,

Alternate passions heaved the throbbing  
breast."

The second Canto is descriptive of scenes and objects surveyed at a distance from Richmond Hill; and contains what Mr. Maurice terms the *AWFUL OBITUARY* of



of 1806. From this latter portion we transcribe the character of Mr. Fox.

"If matchless talents, boundless stretch of thought,  
If science at the sacred fountain sought;  
A spirit, kindling with that fervid glow,  
Whence only great and daring actions flow;  
If friendship ardent, springing from the soul,  
That ne'er knew guile, nor interest's base controul;  
Philanthropy that burn'd tow'ards all mankind,  
By wide-spread seas, or continents disjoin'd,  
Wherever Phœbus' glowing axle rolls,  
Flames at the line, or glimmers at the poles;  
But chief, on fire, beyond th' Atlantic wave,  
To rend the fetters of the groaning slave—  
If these,—if heav'n-born genius give the claim  
To deathless laurels, and immortal Fame,  
That MÆD is thine—eternally combin'd  
In every gen'rous Briton's patriot mind."

The verses which follow the character, are if possible still more happy. They allude to the interment of the Statesman at Westminster.

"No more your thunders strike th' admiring ear,  
But close by *his* is laid *thy* laurell'd bier:  
Extinguished high ambition's glorious thirst,  
Together mingled your distinguish'd dust—  
In peace repose where yon imperial dome  
O'er shrouded grandeur throws its awful gloom,  
Where kings and heroes strew the hallow'd floor,  
And York and Lancaster are foes no more."

These extracts are sufficient to afford a notion of what the reader will be likely to find in *Richmond Hill*; the neighbouring scenes of which are celebrated in a strain of poetry equally fervid and correct, occasionally varied with episodes, and containing many appropriate eulogies on the learned and the great. It is accompanied by two beautiful engravings of the antient palace.

"*The Sweets of Solitude*," by Mr. BURNET, and "*Contemplation*," by Mr. PENWARNE, are poems of a similar description; but probably better calculated for private than general circulation.

In "*The Moorland Bard*," we have the poetical Recollections of a Weaver, in two volumes; whose verses, though occasionally marked by feeling, are not entitled to extraordinary praise. The man who talks of the *Casteallion* spring, will not be suspected of having drank too deeply of its waters.

Not less deserving of attention than Mr. BLOOMFIELD's former Poems, are his "*Wild Flowers*," in which rural manners and rural scenery are so ably represented.

The genius and simplicity which marked the features of his first productions are, equally observable in the poetry of the present volume. The Tale of the Broken Crutch, and the poem To my old Oak Table, are among the best of the local poetry mentioned in the title.

Mr. CLUBBE, the vicar of Brandeston in Suffolk, has translated Mr. Bloomfield's "*Farmer's Boy*," into Latin verse, with a considerable share of elegance and neatness, under the title of *Agricolæ Puer*. It is dedicated to the Master and Fellows of Caius College, Cambridge.

Another, though a more trifling work of merit, will be found in "*The Peacock at Home*," a Sequel to the *Butterfly's Ball*: written by a Lady.—The spleen which had been excited not only among the quadrupeds, but the birds, by the *Butterfly's Ball* and the *Grasshopper's Feast*, is supposed to have made the Peacock issue Cards for Saint Valentine's Day.

"This determin'd, six fleet Carrier-Pigeons went out,  
To invite all the Birds to Sir Argus's Route.  
The nest-loving TURTLE-DOVE sent an excuse,  
DAME PARTLET lay in, as did good Mrs. GOOSE;  
The TURKEY, poor soul! was confined to the rip:  
For all her young brood had just fail'd with the pip.  
And the PARTRIDGE was ask'd; but a neighbour hard by,  
Had engag'd a snug party to meet in a pye;  
The WHEAT-EAR declin'd, recollecting her cousins,  
Last year to a feast were invited by dozens;  
But alas! they return'd not; and she had no taste  
To appear in a costume of vine-leaves or paste.  
The WOOD-COCK prefer'd his lone haunt on the moor;  
And the traveller SWALLOW, was still on his tour.  
The CUCKOO, who should have been one of the guests,  
Was rambling on visits to other bird's nests.  
But the rest, all accepted the kind invitation,  
And much bustle it caus'd in the plumed creation:  
Such ruffling of feathers, such pruning of coats,  
Such chirping, such whistling, such clearing of throats;  
Such polishing bills, and such oiling of pinions  
Had never been known in the biped dominions."

From this, which is a specimen at random, our readers may form an idea of the story, the spirit and point of which are preserved to the very last line.

## NOVELS AND ROMANCES.

'*Palmerin of England*' is a title which cannot be unknown to those who have perused the Adventures of Don Quixotte. Mr. SOUTHEY, who has translated it, considers it indisputably as the work of Francisco de Moraes: and commends the judgment of the curate in consenting to preserve it at the purgation of Don Quixotte's library. For our own parts we know of no advantage which can accrue to literature from its revival. As a romance, it certainly exhibits fancy, descriptive scenery, and artful management, accompanied by as many allurements as usually mark the tone of the best satires on antient chivalry: but a new Translation of it does not appear to us to have been a desideratum.

Several of the characters in Mr. LATIBY'S "*Gabriel Forrester*" are drawn with ability, and we certainly think him superior to the great crowd of modern novel-writers; but he is often too warm; and sometimes too tedious.

"*The Mysterious Wanderer*, by Miss REEVE, deserves great commendation for its ingenuity, interest, and bustle.

The title of "*George the Third*," is derived from the third George in a private family being the heir.

## MISCELLANIES.

The most interesting of the Miscellaneous works which have appeared within the last half year will probably be found in "*Oroniana*," a collection of curious anecdotes illustrating the history of the first university in the world. It is comprised in four small volumes. The first, containing historical and antiquarian articles relative to the university in general; the second appertaining to the different colleges; while the third and fourth, after having noticed some of the public establishments, such as the Bodleian Library, the Picture Gallery, the Theatre, &c. contain Letters from eminent men, curious articles of biography, miscellaneous anecdotes, and a collection of historical memoranda; all of which are more or less illustrative of ancient and modern academic manners. One of the more amusing articles in the first volume is that "On the origin and progress of Newspapers in Oxford, previously to the publication of the Gazette." As a specimen, however, we shall quote that "On the state of Learning in the University at the beginning of the sixteenth century."

"At this time there were in Oxford some men of real learning, among whom

were conspicuous the names of Grocyn, Latymer, Colet, and Linaze; men who in the schools of Italy had studied the Greek language with indefatigable industry, and who were using all their exertions to promote its cultivation in our own country, and particularly in this university. They had however to oppose numerous and violent prejudices, few were anxious to acquire the knowledge of what a great majority loaded with contempt; few could be induced to labour in pursuit of an object by which in the opinion of some they were liable to incur the odious charge of heresy. The study preparatory to the degrees in arts, seems to have been confined to the miserable translations and still more miserable comments of Ptolemy's Astronomy, Aristotle's logical and metaphysical works, something of natural philosophy and ethics, the two first books of Euclid, and a little grammar and rhetoric.

"The regular time of conferring degrees, upon the payment of certain variable pecuniary fines, was allowed to be anticipated. For the higher degrees, these fines sometimes amounted to a considerable sum; for a doctor's degree in divinity twenty pounds have been given. On these occasions, at first the ordinary perquisites were liveries, knives, gloves, and cloth for gowns to the regents; afterwards, instead of these, to substitute a literary exercise, some part of Cicero, or a book of Sallust, to be read to the undergraduates; a copy of Latin verses, or a comedy, with a fine of a few shillings, to repair the convocation house, to glaze a window, repair a dial, or mend a bedel's staff."

From the second volume we have selected two more anecdotes, which appear well deserving of the reader's attention.

*The Crosier at New College.*

"Wykeham's Crosier, which is kept in the chapel at New College, is mentioned by Lord Orford as an instance, 'how well the pomp of prelacy was served by ingenious artists.\*' Mr. Gough, in that most excellent and laborious work, his Sepulchral Monuments observes, that 'the Holy Lamb is usually placed within the circle of the Crosier; but in Wykeham's, his own figure on his knees.†' It may be here remarked, that this was the favourite attitude in which, if we may judge from the statues of him in different parts of his two colleges, he wished to be represented; all

\* Anecdotes of Painting.

† Introduction, p. cliii.



the old ones which are extant, being in a kneeling posture.\* With respect to Bishop Wykeham's robe, Mr. Gough was misinformed, when he said that it is 'kept at New College, and that it is faced with silk, and the buttons are rubies.†' The only remains of the founder's dress, preserved at New College, are the ornaments which belonged to his mitre, which are of gold with various kinds of precious stones, his gloves made of silk with gold fringes, and his ring."

*The West Window of New College Chapel.*

"It appears by the following extracts of two letters from Sir Joshua Reynolds to a gentleman of New College, that it was originally intended not to place the different figures which compose this window together, but to distribute them among the different windows of the chapel. On Sir Joshua's suggestion, however, that plan was abandoned, and the stone work of the window was altered so as to admit one large compartment in the centre.

*Leicester Fields, Dec. 27, 1777.*

"I am extremely glad to hear the society have determined to place all our works together in the west window, to make one complete whole, instead of being distributed in different parts of the chapel. In my conversation with Mr. Jervais about it, he thought it might be possible to change the stone work of the window, so as to make a principal predominant space in the centre, without which it will be difficult to produce a great effect. As Mr. Jervais is now at Oxford, I need add no more, I have already expressed to him how much I wished this alteration might be practicable."

"In a subsequent letter, (Jan. 9, 1778,) he says, 'supposing this scheme to take place, [the alteration above proposed] my idea is, to paint in the great space in the centre, Christ in the manger, on the principle that Corregio has done it, in the famous picture called the Notte; making all the light proceed from Christ. These tricks of art, as they may be called, seem to be more properly adapted to glass painting than any other kind. This middle space will be filled with the Virgin, Christ, Joseph, and angels, the two smaller spaces, on each side, I shall fill with the shepherds coming to worship; and seven divisions below, with the figures of Faith, Hope, and

\* In the lodgings of the warden of New College there is a very old picture of him, in which he is represented kneeling.

† Introduction, p. clii.

Charity, and the four cardinal virtues which will make a proper rustic base, or foundation for the support of the Christian religion: upon the whole, it appears to me, that chance has presented to us materials so well adapted to our purpose, that if we had the whole window of our own invention and contrivance, we should not probably have succeeded better."

Toward the close, we have the "Letters" which passed "between the Earl of Sunderland and Dr. John Fell, bishop of Oxford, and dean of Christ-church, relating to the expulsion of John Locke."

Among the articles in the third volume, we find a large collection of letters from originals in the Bodleian Library, written by Hearne, Brome, B. Willis, Dr. Smith, Hilkiah Bedford, Anthony à Wood, Aubrey, Dr. Charlett, Bishop Tanner, Sir William Dugdale, Dr. Wallis, Dr. Hickes, and others; with some curious selections from the Diary of Elias Ashmole.

The contents of the fourth volume have already been sufficiently described. The memoranda descriptive of the "manners, and illustrative of the history of the university, from the earliest times, to the latter end of the seventeenth century" have been selected from the best authorities, and are arranged in chronological order.

The extraordinary additions to the fifth impression of Mr. D'ISRAELI'S "*Curiosities of Literature*," intitle it to be considered almost as a new work. The remarks with which it is illustrated are not less numerous than the anecdotes.

We regret we cannot speak with so much pleasure as we could wish of Mr. PYE'S "*Comments on the Commentators on Shakespeare*." The short observations on the genius and writings of the poet, prefixed, contain little that is either new, or likely to be serviceable. One of the principal topics is the use of *aches* as a dissyllable. Of the *comments* themselves, a very large portion relate entirely to the errors, the oversights and the absurdities, of other writers; a few contain Mr. Pye's original remarks; and there are others in which the testimonies of former critics are confirmed. As specimens, we shall select the following.

P. 7. "Which would be a great impeachment to his age. Impeachment, Mr. Mason very justly observes, signifies reproach or imputation." *Stevens*.—It is very likely that this common usage of the word is confirmed by two critics."

P. 12. "*My desires had instance, and argument to recommend them.*—Instance is example. Johnson.—It seldom has any other meaning, but this is I think an exception, it seems here to mean *perseverance*."

P. 13. "*Cut and long tail.* We have the various opinions of Steevens, Reed, Sir J. Hawkins, and Judge Blackstone, on this phrase. I wish they had taken this opportunity to give us a few remarks on tag, rag, and bobtail."

P. 69. "*Give me your blessing*", &c. In this conversation between Launcelot and his blind father, there are frequent references to the deception practised on the blindness of Isaac, and the blessing obtained in consequence of it. Henley.—I confess I cannot find these references, neither is there any probability that such a manifest ridicule on part of the sacred scriptures should be permitted on the stage. Shakespear, it is true, has frequent allusions to the Bible; there are many in this play, but they are never introduced indecently, or irreverently."

P. 190. "*I'll call for clubs, if you will not away.*—That is for peace-officers, armed with clubs, or staves. Malone.—It is wonderful, that these gentlemen who will quote twenty black-letter-books, to investigate what often needs no investigation at all, should be so mainly ignorant of the common customs of the time, in which our poet wrote. Whenever any riot or quarrel happened in the streets, the cry of Clubs! was a signal for the apprentices, not the peace-officers, to arm themselves with clubs, and part the fray. There is a note on this expression in Henry 3. Act. 5. Scene 3. where this passage is cited by Mr. Mason. The passage in Henry 3. shews clearly the error of Mr. Malone's note here. 'I hit that woman who cried out, *Clubs!* when I might see from far some forty truncheoners draw to her succour, which were the hope of the Strand, where she was quartered.' Surely these were not peace-officers with staves, who assisted in beating the king's porter in the exercise of his duty."

The typographical errors which deform the work are very numerous, and very glaring. In p. 12, we have "any plants was distinguished;" and at p. 57 "He might then spared." P. 36 illusion for allusion. P. 103 jacit for jacet. P. 306 bread for bred. P. 169 Mr. Macauley's History of England, &c. &c. &c. Surely many of these lapses might have been avoided; at least, they ought to have

been by one who shews no mercy to his brother-critics, when at fault.

Another work, however, more original in its claims to notice, and of interest to Europeans in general, will be found in the "*Oriental Field Sports*," published by Mr. ORME; containing coloured plates, with explanations, of the different kinds of hunting and field-amusements of the inhabitants of India. The following are the subjects of the plates, forty in number. 1. Going out in a Morning; 2. Beating Sugar-Canes for a wild Hog; 3. The Chase of the Hog; 4. Hunters coming by surprise upon a Tigress, and her Cubs; 5. The Hog at Bay; 6. The dead Hog; 7. The Return from Hog-hunting; 8. Driving Elephants into a Keddah; 9. Decoy Elephants catching a Male; 10. Decoy Elephants leaving the Male fastened to a Tree; 11. A Rhinoceros hunted by Elephants; 12. A Tiger prowling through a Village; 13. Shooting a Tiger from a Platform; 14. A Tiger seizing a Bullock in a pass; 15. Driving a Tiger out of a Jungle; 16. Chasing a Tiger across a River; 17. The Tiger at bay; 18. A Tiger springing upon an Elephant; 19. The dead Tiger; 20. Shooters coming by Surprise on a Tiger; 21. A Tiger hunted by wild Dogs; 22. A Tiger killed by a poisoned Arrow; 23. Shooting a Leopard in a Tree; 24. Exhibition of a Battle between a Buffalo and a Tiger; 25. Hunting an old Buffalo; 26. Peacock Shooting; 27. Shooting at the Edge of a Jungle; 28. Driving a Bear out of Sugar-Canes; 29. Death of the Bear; 30. Hunting of a Kuttauss or Civet; 31. Hunting Jackalls; 32. Chase of a Wolf; 33. The common Wolf-trap; 34. Smoking Wolves from their Earths; 35. The Ganges breaking its Banks, with fishing, &c. 36.; Killing Game in boats; 37. Doorahas or dog-keepers leading out Dogs; 38. Syces or Grooms leading out Horses; 39. Hunting a Hog-deer; 40. The Hog-deer at bay. The descriptions in the letter-press which accompany these, will be found as authentic and as interesting, as the representations, replete with a variety of anecdotes which are not indicated in the different titles.

If the most amusing and instructive way of teaching Geography, is by associating it with historical and biographical recollections, Mr. BOURNE'S "*Concise Gazetteer of the most remarkable Places in the World*," must be at least entitled to the character of an edifying work.

Under this head, also, rather than among the Voyages and Travels, we mentioned



tion the "*Letters from England*," by Don MANUEL ALVAREZ ESPRIELIA, who appears in the character of an enlightened foreigner, alike qualified and disposed to correct our errors and appreciate our merits. The truth is, that, like writers who have before amused us in the garb of Orientals, the present author has assumed the cloak of the Spaniard, and with an air of pleasantry and neatness, has cut his jokes on the civil and ecclesiastical establishments of his country: sometimes indulging his readers with caricature exhibitions, and sometimes with reflections of no ordinary shrewdness. As a specimen we shall transcribe his ridicule of the virtuoso taste.

"The passion for old china is confined to old women, and indeed is almost extinct. Medals are in less request since science has become fashionable; or perhaps the pursuit is too expensive; or it requires more knowledge than can be acquired easily enough by those who wish for the reputation of knowledge without the trouble of acquiring it. Minerals are now the most common objects of pursuit; engraved portraits form another, since a clergyman some forty years ago published a biographical account of all persons whose likenesses had been engraved in England. This is a mischievous taste, for you rarely or never meet an old book here with the author's head in it; all are mutilated by the collectors; and I have heard that still more mischievous collections of engraved titles have been begun. The book-collectors are of a higher order, not that the pursuit necessarily implies knowledge; it is the love of possessing rarities, or the pleasure of pursuit, which in most cases actuates them; one person who had spent many years in collecting large-paper copies, having obtained nearly all which had ever been thus printed, sold the whole collection for the sake of beginning to collect them again. I shall bring home an English bookseller's catalogue as a curiosity: every thing is specified that can tempt these curious purchasers: the name of the printer if he be at all famous; even the binder, for in this art they certainly are unrivalled. The size of the margin is of great importance. I could not conceive what was meant by a *tall copy*, till this was explained to me. If the leaves of an old book have never been cut smooth, its value is greatly enhanced; but if it should

happen that they have never been cut open, the copy becomes inestimable."

"The good which these collectors do is, that they preserve volumes which would otherwise perish; and this out-balances the evil which they have done in increasing the price of old books ten and twenty fold. One person will collect English poetry, another Italian, a third classics, a fourth romances; for the wiser sort go upon the maxim of having something of every thing, and every thing of something. They are in general sufficiently liberal in permitting men of letters to make use of their collections; which are not only more complete in their kind than could be found in the libraries of England, but are more particularly useful in a country where the public libraries are rendered almost useless by absurd restrictions and bad management, and where there are no convents. The want of convents is, if only in this respect, a national misfortune.

"The species of minor collectors are very numerous. Some ten years ago many tradesmen issued copper money of their own, which they called tokens, and which bore the arms of their respective towns, or their own heads, or any device which pleased them. How worthless these pieces must in general have been, you may judge, when I tell you that their current value was less than two *quartos*. They became very numerous, and as soon as it was difficult to form a complete collection, (for while it was easy, nobody thought it worth while,) the collectors began the pursuit. The very worst soon became the most valuable, precisely because no person had ever preserved them for their beauty. Will you believe me when I tell you, that a series of engravings of these worthless coins was actually begun, and that a cabinet of them sold for not less than fifty pieces of eight? When the last new copper currency was issued, a shop-keeper in the country sent for a hundred pounds worth from the mint, on purpose that he might choose out a good specimen for himself. Some few geniuses have struck out paths for themselves; one admits no work into his library if it extends beyond a single volume; one is employed in collecting play-bills, another in collecting tea-pots, another in hunting for visiting-cards, another in forming a list of remarkable surnames; another more amusingly in getting specimens of every kind of wig that has  
been

been worn within the memory of man. But the King of Collectors is a gentleman in one of the provinces, who with great pains and expense procures the halts which have been used at executions: these he arranges round his museum in chronological order, labelling each with the name of the criminal to whom it belonged, the history of his offence, and the time and place of his execution. In the true spirit of virtue, he ought to hang himself and leave his own halter to complete the collection."

The second part of the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1807, consists of ten Memoirs; beginning, in continuation of the former part, with No. VII. On Fairy Rings, by Dr. WOLLASTON. VIII. Observations on the Structure of the Stomachs of different Animals, with a view to elucidate the Process of converting animal and vegetable Substances into Chyle, by EVERARD HOME, esq. IX. Experiments for investigating the Cause of the coloured concentric Rings, discovered by Sir Isaac Newton, between two Object-glasses laid one upon another, by Dr. HERSCHELL. X. On the Economy of Bees, in a Letter from THOMAS ANDREW KNIGHT, esq. to Sir JOSEPH BANKS, bart. XI. Observations and Measurements of the Planet Vesta, by Mr. SCHROETER. XII. On a New Eudi-

ometer, 'accompanied with Experiments elucidating its application, by WILLIAM HAZLEDINE PEPYS, esq. XIII. Observations on the Nature of the new celestial Body discovered by Dr. OLBERS, and of the Comet which was expected to appear last January on its return from the Sun, by Dr. HERSCHELL. XIV. On the Quantity of Carbon in Carbonic Acid, and on the Nature of the Diamond, by Messrs. ALLEN and PEPYS. XV. An Account of the Relistian Tin-Mine, by Mr. JOSEPH CARNE. And XVI., An Analysis of the Waters of the Dead Sea and the River Jordan, by ALEXANDER MARCET, M. D. communicated by Smithson Tennant, esq. Of these the second and third Memoirs occupy the largest space. The volume is altogether, one of the most important that has appeared of late years.

The "*Reasons for Rejecting the Presumptive Evidence of Mr. Almon, that Mr. Hugh Boyd was the Writer of Junius*," appear cogent; although the passages selected to prove the real author of the Letters, are as little convincing as the numerous and varying testimonies which have been heretofore adduced. By this writer they are ascribed to General Lee, who is asserted, once in his life to have owned them as his productions.

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#### HALF-YEARLY RETROSPECT OF FRENCH LITERATURE.

THE reciprocal interdict which has taken place on the part of Great Britain and France, prevents us at present from giving our wonted variety to this article. On the other hand, we have enlarged our plan, so that a complete analysis will be found of some instructing works.

##### HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

"Memoirs de Henri de Campion Seigneur du Feuguerei, de Boscferai, de la Lande, &c. &c."—Memoirs of Henry Campion, Lord of Fuguerei, Boscferai, &c. formerly in the service of Francis de Bourbon Vendome, Duke de Beaufort, and colonel-lieutenant of the regiment of infantry of Henry d'Orleans, Duke de Longueville; containing a variety of facts hitherto unknown relative to the reign of Louis XIII. and the eleven first years of the reign of Louis XIV. particularly several interesting anecdotes concerning the Dukes of Vendôme and Beaufort, as well as the Cardinal de Mazarin, from the year 1634 until 1654.

Printed at Paris in 1807, and imported by J. De Boffe, French bookseller, Nassau-street, Soho-square.

We are told in the Preface, that notwithstanding the multitude of histories of France, and memoirs of distinguished individuals, the explanation of many memorable events is still desirable, and that the work now before us is calculated to resolve a variety of political enigmas during the period of which it treats. It is at the same time well adapted, it is added, to make us acquainted with many of the principal personages who flourished during the reigns of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV.

M. de Campion commences his labours by telling us, that the displeasure he experienced when a young man, at finding no account of the exploits of his ancestors, determined him to act a different part in respect to his posterity. He then traces his family up to a Nicol de Campion, who accompanied Robert Courtheuze, the eighth Duke of Normandy,



to the conquest of the Holy Land, in 1092. In 1104, William and Helouin de Campion assisted, as barons of Normandy, at a celebrated trial, while the Chevalier Matthew de Campion, lord of Bois-Herout, was nominated by Philip de Valois, king of France, to the offices of judge and commissioner in the Norman exchequer.

His own father, who had served under Louis XIII. died while a young man, leaving several children. He was the second son; and his mother, although young and handsome, remained ever after a widow, preferring the education of her children to all other considerations whatsoever. His elder brother was placed at the college of La Fleche; and as his younger one was intended for the church, he also received a classical education. As to himself, being destined for the profession of arms, he was taught to read, to write, and encouraged to peruse books calculated to inspire him with a noble way of thinking.

"The first work entrusted to my discretion contained the lives of the illustrious men commemorated by Plutarch, and although it was not entirely suitable to my age, I yet took such a fancy to it that I still remember every memorable passage. I even acknowledge, that I am indebted to this excellent author for all the good sentiments I ever possessed; and, in my opinion, he is the only writer who teaches us how to live, in the same manner as Montaigne is the only one calculated to make us acquainted with ourselves, and Seneca to enable us to die with fortitude."

He passed the greater part of his infancy with an uncle, who not only conversed frequently with him himself, but made him argue with others, for the express purpose of obtaining information and instruction. On the other hand, this relation, instead of checking the natural petulance of his spirit, seemed desirous on all occasions to implant or rather to strengthen his aversion to subordination of all kinds; and he frequently acknowledges, that his unwillingness to obey, prevented him during many years from having the power to command.

At the age of eighteen, Henry de Campion, like several of the young nobility, carried a musket in the regiment of guards, as a cadet. He afterwards obtained an ensign's commission in a corps commanded by M. de Cargret, a fine old warrior, under whom he remained during

two years. In 1634, he resigned his commission in the royal army, for the express purpose of serving, as was frequently the custom at that period, against his own sovereign. Gaston de France, Duke of Orleans, and brother of Louis XIII. being tired of his exile at Brussels, whither he had retired on the execution of the Duke de Montmorenci, who had seduced the province of Languedoc to rebel in his favour, determined to return to his native country; and while one of his confidants carried on a secret intrigue with Richelieu, then minister, for that purpose, another solicited the King of Spain to send a body of troops to assist in driving the Cardinal from France, and restoring Gaston to the favour of his royal brother.

Our young soldier was easily induced to offer his services on this occasion, from the prospect of delivering both the king and kingdom from the tyranny of an upstart ecclesiastic; and perhaps, also, the offer of a cornetcy of horse tended somewhat to strengthen his patriotism. He seems to have thought, indeed, that, provided he retired with consent, instead of deserting, there was nothing dishonourable in such an incident: as to the charge of rebellion, he seemed to be pretty easy on that subject, "For," says he, "Monsieur being brother to the king, and presumptive heir to the crown, it was impossible to tax me with treason, more especially as I had been assured that this prince did not pretend to depart from that obedience which he owed to his Majesty, being only desirous to get the better of the Cardinal, his open and implacable enemy, as all the world well knew."

This intrigue proved fatal to a soldier in the same regiment; and our author himself and two of his companions were indebted to the swiftness of their horses for their escape. On their arrival at Brussels, they were well received by the Duke of Orleans, and promised immediate employment.

Some time after these officers repaired to the siege of Maëstricht, which was defended by the Prince of Orange, and attacked by a Spanish army under the Marquis d'Aiton. The former on this levied a fresh body of troops, and set down before Breda; but nothing of consequence having been effected by either party, the French volunteers returned to head quarters, and the Duke of Orleans, having concluded a treaty with his brother, under pretext of a hunting party,

left Brussels early in the morning, and posting towards the frontiers, entered Picardy, after a journey of thirty leagues, during which he and his followers killed several of their horses through mere fatigue.

The French gentlemen left behind, to the number of about one hundred, were greatly embarrassed at this unexpected event, more especially as they were destitute of money. In regard to M. de Campion, notwithstanding his partiality for Plutarch, he appears to have made some figure at court in consequence of his success at play, and this no doubt enabled him and some of his companions to leave Flanders and wait upon the Duke of Orleans at La Fere, whence he had sent one of his attendants to Brussels to pay his debts, and make his excuses for his sudden departure.

Instead of obtaining a company, as had been promised, young Campion was now forced to buy an ensigncy, for which he paid six hundred crowns; and, on being presented to the king, he deemed himself extremely happy that his person was not recognized. Indeed, the better to conceal his recent conduct, he abandoned the name of Fuguere, by which he had hitherto been known.

Having repaired to Nanci, in Lorraine, he served for some time under the Marshal de la Force, and was present at several actions, as well as at the capture of more than one place. During the attack of Remiremont, although in a bad state of health, M. de Campion found means to distinguish himself. Happening at this period to be confined to bed with a fever, he got up on hearing that a breach had been effected, and insisted on serving along with the regiment of Normandy. The canoresses in that town, to the number of fifty, many of them very young and very handsome, headed by La Dame de Villeroi, at the same time proceeded to the ramparts, and throwing themselves at the feet of Coudrelle, the governor, supplicated him to take pity on them, and surrender before the assault was given. They concluded by observing, "that on his reply depended their honour." To this he answered, "that his own honour was at stake, and that he must think of it also." After repulsing the enemy, these ladies were permitted to send a deputation to the enemy's camp, and becoming successful mediators, the garrison was permitted to retire with all the honours of war.

Towards the conclusion of the cam-

paign, our young warrior once more fell ill, and having retired to Nanci, placed himself under the protection of an officer related to his family, with whom, on his recovery, he returned to Normandy. The winter of 1636 was spent with his mother, and on his going back to his regiment, Campion found himself a lieutenant. Having been sent to Evreux, to superintend the recruiting service: during his march to Beausse, an incident occurred, which serves to exhibit the disorganized situation of France at that period; for on advancing to Bu, near Anet, the inhabitants refused to permit the king's troops to take up their quarters within the town; nay, their insolence was so great that they threatened to attack them, if they but advanced towards it. He however, having encouraged his raw levies with the hopes of plundering the village, they exhibited such an imposing countenance, that the townsmen became intimidated.

Having rejoined the regiment of Normandy with two hundred recruits, orders were received soon after to repair to the army of Cardinal de la Valette, and Campion together with his brother officers assisted at the siege of Saverne, where a great number of the soldiers lost their lives.

During the winter of 1637, our author spent a few months at Paris, and while there, became greatly enamoured with Mademoiselle de Fontaine, the daughter-in-law of his elder brother; he also fought a duel with a gentleman about a mere trifle, and on this occasion, the seconds engaged as well as the principals. Wounds were given and received, but nothing serious ensued; and the writer of the Memoirs seems to have been heartily ashamed of his rash conduct, although he confesses that he was then young and vain enough to have made this affair a subject of triumph.

When the army entered on the campaign, he was again at his post, and served under the duke de Longueville. Towards the end of the summer, the plague manifested itself in the camp, and this is here said to have originated from "the multitude of women and children, the pillage, and above all, the interposition of the Deity, as a punishment for all the evils committed by the troops." More than half the soldiers, and a large portion of the officers, are supposed to have perished on this occasion. D'Alvimar, a friend of the author's, who afterwards obtained the rank of Maréchal de Camp, and



and fell at the battle of Rethel, on being seized with this malady was forsaken by all the world but his brother officer. He himself was afflicted with a dysentery, and obliged by the advice of his physicians, to repair to Normandy, for the purpose of benefiting by his native air.

After his recovery, he served in Franche-Comté, under the duke of Longueville, against the duke of Lorraine, and was present at the engagement in the vicinity of Coligni; at the conclusion of which, both parties deeming themselves worsted, were in a hurry to retire.

During the continuance of the troops in winter quarters, Lieutenant Campion formed a kind of literary society, consisting of himself, and a few officers of the regiment of Normandy. Their interviews concluded with disputations on various interesting subjects, and many persons took delight in listening to their conferences.

“ I never found any associates (says our author), more reasonable or more pleasant. All the officers were my friends, and I was so much beloved, that although only a lieutenant I may be fairly said, to have governed the whole battalion. In short, my time passed away in a very agreeable manner, and I was never in the least embarrassed but in consequence of my unhappy passion for dice, which kept me in continual indigence. I hated above all things to borrow, but necessity often constrained me to take that step, and on those occasions I always applied by letter, being afraid to ask for assistance in any other manner. My friends, indeed, never abandoned me, but I was vexed to become importunate, which yet my bad conduct forced me to be, until 1640, at the siege of Turin, when, after having frequently sworn in vain, never to play any more at dice, I formed that resolution, without an oath, and I have persevered with such scrupulous exactness, that there is no appearance of my ever changing my mind. I have often since amused myself at cards, and at *tric-trac*, indeed; but as I understand those games, my fortune has not received any injury.”

At the beginning of 1639, M. de Campion repaired to court, and was well received by the king, who conferred on him the place of a gentleman in waiting, and at the same time promised the first vacant company.

After this he repaired to the army, and served in Rousillon, under the command of the Prince de Condé, and Marshal de

Schomberg. At the siege of Salces, our lieutenant distinguished himself greatly, and soon after received a wound during an attack on the Spaniards. In one of these actions, the body of a lady who commanded a regiment, was found among the dead, and claimed by the enemy.

In 1641, the king having refused to fulfil his promise to M. de Campion, by conferring a company on him, merely because his elder brother was attached to the count de Soissons, he determined to resign his commission, and sell his place at court; but his majesty would not grant permission. This, however, was at length obtained, some time after, and his brother Alexander, who was now in the service of the duke de Vendome, having procured him a situation about the person of the duke de Beaufort his son, he immediately undertook that office, which was that of *gentleman* to his highness.

Meanwhile the duke de Beaufort having entered into a plot against cardinal Richelieu, received orders to repair instantly to court. With a view of gaining time, this nobleman immediately feigned indisposition, and perceiving at length that it was dangerous to repair to Paris, he determined to leave France. A person was accordingly dispatched to Normandy, and a vessel having been hired, was anchored at the mouth of the Seine, near to Havre. M. de Campion being entrusted with the management of the details, he set out before, procured relays of horses, and having embarked at Iport, near Fecamp, the fugitives arrived safe at Rye, in Sussex. Soon after this, they fell in with the duke de Vendome, the duke d'Epemon, the Marquis de la Vieuville, the Count de Montresor, the Count d'Aubijoux, Messrs. de Fonterailles, and de Varicaville, all of whom had retired for the express purpose of sheltering themselves from the hatred of the cardinal.

“ We spent six months in England,” says he, “ enjoying all manner of diversions, and during this period Charles I. who together with his queen had left their capital some time before, after having been forced to sign the death warrant of the Earl of Stafford, his favourite, assembled a body of troops, and gave battle to the Earl of Essex, the Parliament's general. In this engagement, his majesty had rather the advantage, for he constrained his enemies to retire to London and approached so near that city himself, that the rebels were greatly terrified. These disputes did not prevent us from passing our time very agreeably. As for myself

myself, I gained a great deal of money at play, and was so rich that on the duke de Beaufort's speaking once about a pension, I replied, "when his own fortune was re-established, it would be time enough to think of mine, and until then I would not trouble him for any thing."

"Amidst the contests of the English, which at length led to a change in the form of government and the decapitation of their king, by an unexampled act of cruelty: we received advice that the cardinal de Richelieu was confined to his bed, and a short time after that he had died.\* while at the very height of his fortune and his glory. Nearly at the same time, and while the exiles were still overwhelmed with joy, the duke de Beaufort was honoured with a letter from the queen, with whom he was on good terms, beseeching him to return immediately to France. On this we set out that very night, re-embarked at Rye, and landed at St. Valeri, where we purchased horses without discovering who we were, as we learned that orders had been received from court to arrest all the French who came from England."

At the beginning of the year 1643, the duke de Beaufort sent M. de Campion to Paris, to negotiate about the return of his father, but his treaty proved abortive, in consequence of the jealousy of the other agents of the prince. This desirable object, however, was at length effected; for Mazarin who had succeeded to Richelieu, found it necessary to obtain the support of the house of Vendome.

Meanwhile the duke de Beaufort flattering himself to be able to govern the queen entirely after the death of Louis XIII. an event then supposed to be at no great distance, that minister became his declared enemy. Her majesty, however, appeared at that period to place great confidence in him, for he was entrusted with the care of her children, and the command of the troops. On this the duke of Orleans and the Prince of Condé becoming jealous of the new favourites, joined the party of the minister; and the cardinal having gained the ladies in the queen's confidence, that circumstance, together with certain imprudent proceedings on his own part, soon lost the duke her majesty's esteem.

Beaufort, at the instigation of the duchesses of Chevreux and de Montbason, now entered into a conspiracy to assassinate Mazarin. Several of the nobility

also, and some officers of the guards were acquainted with this plot, against which, to the credit of our author, he remonstrated. He even appears to have saved the minister's life more than once by bringing false accounts, &c. to his patron. Notwithstanding this, he was at length prevailed on to mount on horseback, and lay wait for him on his return from court with a body of armed men.

This wily dignitary of the church of Rome, however, was on his guard, and soon discovered by means of his spies, that a project had been formed against his life. On this the queen having assembled the Duke of Orleans, the Prince de Condé, and all the ministers, it was agreed after a long consultation, that the Duke de Beaufort should be arrested. Accordingly, in the course of that very evening, happening to repair to the Louvre as usual, he was seized and carried to Vincennes.

On this, M. de Campion, at the request of the Duke de Vendome, immediately fled to Anet, while several of his friends were taken up, and sent to the Bastille. As the cardinal had conceived an idea, that our author was privy to the whole conspiracy, he by means of the Prevot of the Isle of France, laid a trap for seizing his person, and had it not been for a mere accident he would have been taken and imprisoned for many years. In order to avoid this in future, he deemed it prudent to take refuge with a relation who lived in the forest of Bretueil in Normandy, while the duke de Vendome, to preserve his own liberty, was obliged nearly at the same time to fly in disguise first to Geneva, and afterwards to Switzerland and Italy.

At length, M. de Campion, deemed it necessary to quit the kingdom also. He accordingly repaired to the coast of Brittany, and embarking near to St. Brieux, on board a small vessel, reached Jersey after a quick passage.

"The governor of this island," says he, "who was also Vice Admiral of England, received me and my companions with great politeness, and promised us his protection. He was called Cate-ret, and appeared to be a very estimable man. He was extremely zealous in behalf of his king, who still disputed his crown with the party attached to the parliament, and had retaken Jersey from the rebels. We became so intimate, that I dined with him almost daily. He had a very amiable and sociable wife, with whom I often conversed freely, but always in the most honourable manner, and having

\* December 4, 1642.



having obtained a great number of excellent books from France, I spent my time partly in reading, partly in social intercourse. I also took great delight in walking along the strand, amidst the solitary rocks that surrounded my dwelling, which looked towards the sea, and afforded me a full view of that vast and changeable element.

"I beheld equally unmoved the tempest and the calm. I considered that, although shut up in an island three leagues long, and one in breadth, where I was a stranger and destitute of any permanent property, I might still be more happy, provided I exhibited more wisdom than those who had occasioned my disgrace. I reflected that if I was exiled from the place of my birth by their authority, they were reduced to the same situation, in respect to their native country, by their good fortune, and that if they spent their time with greater splendour, mine passed away amidst superior tranquillity. Considerations of this kind taught me at length to know, that my happiness depended entirely upon myself, and I actually spent seven months in this savage spot, without evincing the least desire to leave it."

He was at length persuaded however, by the duke de Vendome, to follow him to Italy. On this he landed at Coutances in Normandy, and travelled by unfrequented roads to the house of his brother the Abbé, where he concealed himself during some weeks. After this he set out on horseback for Geneva, then repaired to Venice, and rejoined his patron at Florence; but he was received with great coldness, and after a short stay at Rome returned first to France, and then to Jersey. Thence he passed over once more into Normandy, and remained concealed at the house of a relation during the years 1646 and 1647, without any one knowing the place of his retreat, a single female servant only excepted.

At length, thinking that the plot formed by the Duke de Beaufort was entirely forgotten, he married Mademoiselle Martinville in 1648, purchased the estate of Boscereij, near to Elbeuf, and was about to reside there, when he learned that his friend had escaped from Vincennes. On this he prepared to rejoin the duke de Beaufort; but was coolly requested by that nobleman to return home—and the troubles which had originated at Paris, having now extended to the provinces, M. de Campion embraced the party of the duke de Longueville, who disputed

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the government of that portion of France, with the Count de Harcourt Lorraine. Having accepted a commission under him he advanced with a body of troops to succour Evreux, and having formally "abjured the service of the duke de Beaufort," he in 1652, obtained the command of a regiment of infantry from his new protector.

During the siege of Bar le Duc, our author was introduced to the cardinal Mazarin, who treated him with great distinction; and in 1653, he was present at the sieges of Chateau Porcien and Vervins.

We now come to a passage which strongly marks the superstition of the age of which we at present treat. "I had time about this period, (1653) to visit my own home, (says he) and spend a few days with my wife and children, and found my eldest daughter so handsome, so witty, and above all so intelligent, although only four years of age, that her reason appeared superior to my own. I then repaired to Sens, on purpose to establish a garrison there, after which I returned once more to my own house, and passed two months there, with every thing around me calculated to add to my satisfaction; and yet I was at the same time overwhelmed with an unaccountable degree of melancholy, which was but a warning of that extreme affliction that I was soon unhappily destined to experience. I became greatly alarmed on this occasion, knowing that God had constantly intimated to me all my misfortunes, by dreams, presages, or internal admonitions. On repairing to Italy, in quest of the Duke de Vendome, a weazel crossed my path, in the neighbourhood of Geneva, a circumstance which to me has always been the forerunner of some sinister events. On arriving at Rome, another traversed the road in the same manner, and the day before my friend Beaupuis was arrested, I was informed of that event in a dream, as I told him in the course of that very forenoon. The self same incident occurred to me at the capture of Ganseville, when a third weazel made its appearance. In fine, I experienced a similar adventure, when I went in search of the Duke of Beaufort on his escape from prison.

"I have nothing of superstition in my constitution, (he is pleased to add) but I believe God possesses so much goodness that he occasionally inclines to warn mankind of the evils which are about to befall them, either that they should be enabled to avoid them, or to let them know,

know, after they have occurred, that they are the effects of his immutable will, resolved upon from all eternity, so that being thus obliged to submit, they may not murmur against Divine Providence.

"I was exactly in the situation just described, without being prevented however, from diverting myself in appearance, with my wife, my friends, and more especially with my daughter, when on returning one day after dining abroad with a neighbour, my mind still occupied with sinister prognostications respecting my dear little favourite, I found her in the crisis of a virulent fever! Soon after this, the small-pox broke out, for which disease a physician to whom I had sent administered the proper remedies; but on the morning of the fifth day the pustules disappeared, and my dear and beloved child died on the 10th of May, 1633.

"In the course of the next forenoon, I ordered the last duties to be performed, in the choir of my parish-church of Thuitsignol, and caused a tombstone to be cut, on which I described my grief: it was so great, that from this moment I never have enjoyed a single hour of happiness. I had conceived an idea that my child would form the consolation of my declining years, and I had begun to associate her so completely in all things with myself, that I thought it was bereaving my daughter of her due, to take pleasure in any event of which she could not partake."

After this, M. de Campion repaired to the army, and proposed in vain to the Duke de Longueville, to disband his regiment; he then served in Picardy, under the orders of Marshal de Turenne, and was taken ill; notwithstanding this, he found means to be present at the siege of Mouson, where he distinguished himself. He also assisted during an engagement when the Marechal d'Aumont, having obtained the advantage over a Spanish general, caned him after he had become his prisoner, under pretence that he himself had been treated in the same manner by the enemy!

Soon after this, the regiment of Longueville was sent into winter quarters at Rheims, and twenty companies of it were disbanded. In 1654-5, our author retired from the service to his estate at Boscferai, at the age of forty-one, having been born in 1613.

We shall finish this article with a quotation from the conclusion of the volume now before us:

"After this period, I attended to no-

thing except my own affairs, and those of my friends, when they were pleased to crave my assistance. Notwithstanding my efforts to live on good terms with my neighbours, I have had some differences with them, relative to the quartering of troops, and hunting, but without ever overstepping the bounds of reason or of justice, at the same time conducting myself with firmness in regard to those who pretended by their estates, their places, or other intrinsic advantages, to affect a superiority over me, having always taken precedence of such, whether counts or burgesses, and insisted that my wife should follow my example. In respect to gentlemen in general, I have ever treated them with every imaginable degree of politeness; for, as I have considered none of that rank my superior, so I myself would never treat any such as my inferiors.

"The only uneasiness experienced by me during my retirement, proceeded from the ill health of my wife, and the disproportion of my fortune to the number of my children. I could not find in my heart, however, to diminish the number of our domestics, or to change the manner in which we lived; and the bare possibility of being one day reduced in point of circumstances, although that never has occurred, makes me pass many uneasy hours.

"On the 2d of November, 1658, I was exposed to great danger, by the rashness of a servant, who wounded the commandant of a troop of cavalry, while pillaging the cottage of a neighbour. In 1659, my wife being once more pregnant, was seized with a pleurisy, and was soon after delivered of a daughter: both mother and child died upon the occasion, and I was so afflicted with my loss, that my situation became truly pitiable. Being unable to remain in a house that recalled so many losses to my memory, I repaired to Conches where I resided until the summer of 1660, when perceiving that my afflictions were every where equally great, I returned to Boscferai with my children. I lived there, sad and mournful, without any other consolation than the annual celebration of the death of my dearly beloved spouse, at Thuitsignol, and in my chapel of Boscferai. I have caused two tombs to be erected, close to each other, in the choir of the parish-church of Thuitsignol, near to my own pew, one over the spot where reposes the remains of the best, most cherished, and most regretted of wives; the



the other is destined for myself, and I have already caused an epitaph to be engraved, which only wants the day and year of my death to render it complete."

The afflictions of M. de Campion having rendered life insupportable, he died May 11, 1663, at the age of fifty-one years and three months.

"*Essai sur la Vie du Grand Condé, par Louis Joseph de Bourbon Condé, son quatrième descendant.*"—An Essay on the Life of the Great Condé, by Louis Joseph de Bourbon Condé, the fourth in descent from him.

"A travers mille feux, je vois Condé paraître

Tour à tour la terreur et l'appui de son maître."

Notwithstanding the many Lives that have already appeared of Condé, one of his great-grandsons, about forty years since, undertook to write a new memoir concerning this celebrated man. His own archives presented the most authentic sources of information, and as to the authenticity of the manuscript itself, the Editor asserts, that he possesses two copies, one of them with marginal notes, in the hand-writing of Louis XV.

Louis de Bourbon, the second of that name, at first Duke d'Enghien, and then Prince de Condé, was born at Paris on the 7th of September, 1621. It is greatly to be regretted, that history has not been more successful in collecting the occurrences of his infancy; as we know not whether any traits of the future hero were developed at an early period of life. He was educated under the title of the Duc d'Enghien, at Bourges, where his father at that time lived, and where the Jesuits of that city had a college.

The only distinction paid to him above that of the same class, was, that he sat in an arm chair. The facility with which he learned his task, and the quickness of his progress, discovered a mind and talents well adapted to study. At eight years of age, we are told, he was acquainted with Latin; at eleven he composed a treatise on rhetoric, and sustained his thesis in philosophy with great success.

On leaving Bourges, to pass a few of the summer months at the castle of Montrond, which appertained to his father, the latter enjoined him never to write in any other language but Latin. As he seemed to have taken too great a liking at this period to the chace, the Prince of Condé, fearing lest this passion should

avert his mind from his studies, transmitted him orders to send away his dogs. He obeyed next morning, and, in a letter addressed to his parent, frankly acknowledged that he had followed this amusement with too much ardour.

The Duke d'Enghien having repaired to Burgundy during the siege of Dole, which had been undertaken under the conduct of the Prince de Condé, he on this occasion appears, for the first time, to have conceived an attachment for war.

"How I long (says his highness) to repair to your camp, in order to attend on your person, and participate in your cares. I read with pleasure the heroic actions of our kings in history; and on beholding such admirable examples, I feel a holy ambition to imitate them: but it is at present sufficient to be a boy, and to desire, and to possess no other will but your's."

The Duke d'Enghien, we are told, was introduced into the world "at the birth of Louis XIV. and the commencement of the epoch which that monarch created.\*" He was received with all the distinction which an amiable young man, of a noble figure, and elevated rank, ever inspires. But he was extremely mortified from his first appearance at court, on account of the astonishing power enjoyed by Richelieu, the splendour which surrounded him, and the unexampled degree of pomp, which this minister dared to affect, even in the sight of his sovereign. It generally became necessary for his father to issue a written order before he could be prevailed on to visit the prelate, and at seventeen years of age this was the greatest proof that he could give of his obedience.

The princess his mother deemed it dangerous for her son to be unceasingly occupied with a sight of that despotism, which appeared so revolting to his youthful and haughty mind. She endeavoured, therefore, to turn his attention from what was passing at court by assembling around her the most illustrious and select society; and she also conducted him to the *hôtel de Rambouillet*, where at that period were collected the highest orders of the nobility of both sexes, together with the most enlightened men of letters. The young prince conducted himself on these occasions with the greatest propriety, and a taste for the arts and sci-

\* In 1638.

ences seemed to be the first step towards his glory, as it was destined, indeed, to be one day the term, and the recompence of all his labours."

In 1639, the prince of Condé sent his son to command in Burgundy, and he made his first campaign under the inspection of the Marshal de la Meilleraye. On his return (on the 11th of February, 1641,) he, at his father's express request, was married to Claire Clement de Maillé Breze, niece to the cardinal-minister, whom he so much detested.

After this, he performed prodigies of valour, at the sieges of Collioure, Perpignan, and Salces. On his way home he passed through Lyons, and neglected to visit the archbishop of that city, who was the brother of Richelieu. "The imperious minister immediately complained to the Prince de Condé, and insisted that he should send his son back again, for the sole purpose of repairing an omission which was so displeasing to him. The cardinal was at once powerful and implacable; the prince idolized his son: nature spoke on this occasion, and pride was forced to be silent."

On the demise of Richelieu, soon after, the house of Condé immediately reclaimed its birth right, and insisted, at the same time, that the princes of the blood royal should enjoy that precedence over cardinals, which had been denied them during the life of his eminence. Louis XIII. immediately declared the Prince de Condé the head of his council, and at the same time conferred on the Duke d'Enghien the command of the army which was destined to cover Champagne and Picardy. While marching to the succour of Rocroi, his highness learned that the king was no more, and there were not wanting some who advised him to abandon the defence of the frontiers, in order to march to Paris immediately with his army, that he might there regulate the regency according to his own inclinations. Rejecting such a perfidious advice, he hastened to relieve a town besieged by the enemy. After achieving this, he obtained the Marechal de l'Hôpital's consent to give battle, and the Spaniards were vanquished at Rocroi.

"On this occasion the Duke d'Enghien fell on his knees at the head of his army, in order to return thanks to the God of Battles, for the victory which he had just gained. He then embraced all his generals, paying them at the same time many compliments, and also promising recompences of a more substantial nature.

During this famous action, which cost only 2000 men to France, the Spaniards lost more than 16000, twenty-one pieces of artillery, 300 standards, and a great number of officers, among whom was the brave Count Fuentès, whose cool valour had nearly proved so fatal to France, and who expired by the side of the litter on which he had been carried."

The next exploit was the siege of Thionville, captured in 1643, and which rendered the conqueror master of the Moselle; after this, he returned to Paris, where he was received with an uncommon degree of distinction.

In 1644, the duke commanded a body of troops in the country of Luxemburg, and projected the siege of Treves, but this measure was rejected by the court, from which he received orders to march to the banks of the Rhine, and join the army commanded by M. de Turenne. At Fribourg, they attacked General Merci in conjunction, and it was on this occasion, that the duke, dismounting from his horse, and placing himself at the head of the regiment of Conti, advanced towards the entrenchments of the enemy, into which he threw his *baton* or staff of office, which proved the signal of victory. A new action took place the next day, and the success would have been still more complete, had it not been for the precipitation of d'Espéran, one of the generals under his command: Merci, however thought proper to retire, and was closely pursued during his retreat.

On his return to court, the duke performed actions of another kind, less brilliant indeed, but assuredly no less meritorious. The Count de Chabot loved Mademoiselle de Rohan, and was beloved by her in return; their union, however, experienced some difficulties, which were entirely removed by our young hero, who obtained for him the rank of duke and peer. The Chancellor Seguier was irritated because the Marchioness de Coislin, his daughter, had espoused M. de Laval, without asking his leave: the duke took it upon himself to appease the offended parent, and succeeded. The Duke de Chatillon was enamoured with Mademoiselle de Boutteville, and wished to marry her: the young D'Enghien, on this occasion, sacrificed his own passion in behalf of his friend, and not only brought about an alliance, but scrupulously respected those ties which he himself had formed.

In 1646, Cardinal Mazarin conferred on the Duke d'Enghien the command of the



the army of Italy; but as his father objected to such a distant expedition, Prince Thomas of Savoy was sent thither in his place. He then offered of his own accord, to serve under Gaston, Duke of Orleans, in Flanders, and make head against the Duke de Lorraine in the field, while the commander in chief laid siege to Tournay.

Soon after this, he invested Dunkirk, and the Marquis de Leede with the garrison was at length prevailed upon to surrender, on condition that they should enjoy all the honours of war. Amidst this career of victory, he lost his father, Henry de Bourbon, third Prince of Condé, on the 25th of December, and on his death succeeded to the titles of first prince of the blood, chief of the council of regency, grand master of France, and governor of the provinces of Burgundy and Berry. Immediately after this, he called himself, and was known by the appellation of, M. le Prince.

In 1647, he placed himself at the head of the army of Catalonia; but on his arrival at Barcelona, he found it destitute of artillery, money, and magazines. On the 27th of May, Condé opened the trenches before Lerida, "to the sound of violins," but the obstinate defence made by André-Brilt obliged him soon after to raise the siege.

On his return to court, he expressed his discontent to the cardinal, who in his turn renewed his protestations of devotion and respect, and at the same time made him an offer of the command of whatever army he might please to choose.

In 1648, commenced those disturbances, which are known in history by the title of "the war of the Fronde." We are here told, "that the injustice of Cardinal Mazarin, added to the vexatious conduct of the superintendant Emery, his creature, in a short time, produced an universal spirit of discontent. The people groaned under excesses and imposts; the parliament became agitated; the *grande*es murmured; intrigues of every kind augmented; the *Fronde* was formed; the famous *arrêt* of union was agreed on; the prime minister began to be afraid, he displayed his weakness and was more closely pressed than ever; the heads of all got warm; the flame extended on every side, and at length became general."

Meanwhile, the prince repaired to Picardy, at the head of an army consisting of 30,000 men, determined to commence the campaign with the siege of Ypres,

which was forced to surrender notwithstanding the appearance of the archduke. On this he engaged that general on the plain of Lens, and after reminding his soldiers of the actions at Rocroi, Fribourg, and Nordlinguen, obtained a signal and decisive victory, with the loss of only 500 men. On the other hand, according to the account before us, the enemy lost 10,000 soldiers, 800 officers, 120 pair of colours, 33 pieces of cannon, and all their baggage.

"It would appear (says his descendant), to have been reserved for the good fortune of the Great Condé, not only to conquer, but even to destroy the most formidable enemy of France; to annihilate in less than two hours an army; and save an empire: such was the triumph of this hero.

"This decisive and unexpected success, (adds he) seemed calculated to ensure the conquest of the Low Countries; but so great was the fermentation within the kingdom, that the queen sent orders to the prince to terminate the campaign immediately. Before he obeyed, however, it was determined to obtain possession of Furnes, and the Marshal de Rantzou was accordingly entrusted with the siege of that place. But the not acquitting himself to the satisfaction of the prince, his highness himself repaired thither, and, while in the trenches received a musket ball, which luckily, produced no more than a slight contusion in the hip. His presence, however, decided the fate of the town, for it immediately surrendered; on which he set off for court.

"Services so important deserved a distinguished return. The queen therefore by, letters patent, dated in December 1648, conferred, in the most honourable manner, the sovereignty of the county of Clermontois, to be enjoyed by him and his successors, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto; a species of recompence equally worthy of the achievements of a great general, and the gratitude of a great king."

On his return to the capital, the Prince of Condé was courted by all parties; but he appeared determined from the very beginning to appertain to neither of the factions. On the contrary, he declared himself as mediator, between the queen and the *Fronde*, and actually persuaded her majesty to negotiate with the parliament, and issue the famous declaration, which appeared for a moment to appease all the troubles in the state.

Notwithstanding his original intentions  
to

to remain neutral, Condé was at length prevailed on to side with the court. On this occasion, he was pleased to say, "I am called Louis de Bourbon, and will not on any account allow the crown to totter." The queen, on her part, employed both prayers and tears, while the young monarch embracing him in the most flattering manner, commended to his guardianship the safety of the state and his own person."

Condé having been thus gained, proposed to march an army to the gates of the capital, to seize the arsenal, to place batteries opposite the principal streets, and in this state of affairs, to summon the chiefs of the *Fronde* to leave the city. Le Tellier, on the other hand, recommended a blockade; and the queen having adopted his plan, the prince was entrusted with the command of 7 or 8000 men, destitute of money and magazines, with whom, during the depth of winter, it was expected that he should oblige the metropolis to submit. This scheme however, did not wholly succeed; for the Prince de Conti, who belonged to the opposite party, was declared generalissimo, and the Parisians were also supported in their revolt by the Duke de Longueville, governor of Normandy, and several other persons of distinction.

The court being at the same time greatly alarmed by the approach of the Spaniards, whose aid had been solicited by the Coadjutor, Cardinal Retz, the threats of the Duke de la Fernouille, and the defection of Turenne, the mediation of Condé was invoked, and the treaty of St. Germaine signed by all parties, in consequence of which the *Fronde* was to the full as dangerous, and the minister as powerful as before. The prince, however, seized this opportunity to re-establish his popularity with the Parisians, and he accordingly repaired to the capital for that purpose.

Meanwhile a plot was hatching against his own liberty, on the part of the queen and the cardinal, and on the 13th of January 1650, he was arrested at the Palais Royal by the captain of his majesty's guards, at the very moment he had repaired thither to take his seat at the council-board. On hearing the order repeated, his highness immediately exclaimed, "What a return for all my services!" And on being conducted through a double line of troops, he observed, "This, my friends, is not the battle of Lens!" During his journey to the castle of Vincennes, the carriage

broke down, and Condé would have escaped, had he not been overtaken by one of the guards, who, putting a pistol to his breast, obliged him to return.

On his arrival at the place of destination, his highness found the Prince de Conti also in confinement, who, drawing his sole resource from devotion, earnestly entreated the perusal of a very pious book, entitled, "*Une Imitation de Jesus Christ*." Condé, on the other hand, being rather occupied by the present than the future, exclaimed, that he was far more anxious for "*L'Imitation de M. de Beaufort* \*." The Duke d'Enghien, his son, repaired to the parliament some time afterwards; and when his mother, with tears in her eyes, had presented a petition in favour of her husband, he looked around and said, "Be a father to me, gentlemen, for Mazarin has bereaved me of my own." Next day an arrêt was passed in favour of the prince.

The consort of Condé, not content with this, incited the inhabitants of several towns to declare in favour of him, and even placed herself at the head of a body of troops. He was informed of this by his surgeon, while employed in watering a few pinks that he was permitted to cultivate: on which, struck with the singularity of his destiny, without desisting from his labours, he replied, "Could you ever have thought, my friend, that I should be tending my garden, while my wife was making war?"

Soon after this the Cardinal was hung in effigy by the Parisians, and the parliament passed an edict against him, by which he was commanded to leave the kingdom. Instead of obeying, the minister flew to Havre, whither the princes had been transferred for safety, and, ordering the gates of the prison to be thrown open, fell on his knees and kissed the boot of the great Condé!

"M. le Prince," says his descendant, "now at the height of human grandeur, cherished by the noblesse, beloved by the parliament, supported by the *Fronde*, adored by the people, and dreaded by the court, felt the full extent of his authority, and yet did not abuse it. Mazarin, on the contrary, detested, banished, ridiculed, and abhorred by the nation, still preserved his power, notwithstanding his absence, and from the sink of that opprobrium with which he was

\* The Duke de Beaufort, a little before this, had found means to escape from the castle of Vincennes.



covered, dared to form the audacious project of elevating himself, by the force of intrigue, on the ruins of that hero who had overwhelmed him under the weight of his virtues."

Soon after this her majesty once more issued orders for his arrest, but he had the good fortune to escape from that prison, into which, as he himself frankly avowed to the celebrated Bossuet, "he had entered the most innocent and retired from the most culpable of men." From this moment Condé seems to have considered himself at liberty to wage war against the court, and he accordingly sent Sillery to Brussels, on purpose to solicit the assistance of the Spaniards. Nearly at the same time, he was offered the throne of Naples, by the people, which he refused, as well as the crown of Poland, which also was tendered him in the sequel.

Having repaired immediately to Bourdeaux, the prince raised a body of from ten to twelve thousand troops, while M. de Conti produced a revolt in Berry and the Bourbonnois; but De Bouillon and Turenne, notwithstanding their promise, refused to declare in his favour. On this Mazarin re-entered France, and that very parliament which had set a price on his head, declared Condé, his enemy, guilty of treason, although he had only taken up arms to prevent the return of this odious minister.

In 1653, his highness repaired to Brussels, for the express purpose of soliciting succours in person. On this occasion the archduke insisted on precedency, but Condé threatened to leave the Spanish dominions unless he was treated with due respect. In the month of June he entered Picardy, at the head of 27,000 combatants, nearly at the same time that his rival Turenne penetrated into Champagne with the French army. His allies, however, whose interest it was to produce and to continue the miseries of civil war, would not join in any efficient measures; and the action at Rocroi was accordingly the only decisive victory gained by him. "The title of generalissimo, conferred on Condé by his Catholic majesty, appears to have given an air of feebleness to the whole of his conduct. According to some, from the moment he assumed the command, he ought not to have yielded to any one, but, on the contrary, punished whosoever dared to disobey him. Such, however, is usually the fate of a rebel, who surrenders himself to the enemies of his country: he

renounces the duties of a subject, to impose on himself the yoke of a slave."

At this period, we are told, "Charles II. of England, dethroned by Cromwell, sought a retreat in the Low Countries; and Condé, who never measured his esteem by the caprices of fortune, obliged the Spaniards, by his example, to pay him the greatest respect."

While his army was encamped in the vicinity of Dunkirk, the prince fell sick, and was supposed to be in the most imminent danger. On this, the queen sent the physician Guénaut to his assistance; and even Mazarin himself thought it becoming to feign a sorrow which he did not feel. His convalescence, we are told, was equally grateful to the French and their enemies; a circumstance perhaps unexampled in history.

At length, after a civil war of considerable duration, Don Louis de Haro, the Spanish ambassador, insisted, during the famous conferences with Mazarin, in the *Ile des Faisans*, that M. le Prince should be re-established in all his honours, estates, employments, governments, &c. that he should receive a million of crowns from Spain, in addition to the five millions paid under the name of subsidies; and that all his friends should be restored and indemnified.

On this he left Brussels, in 1660, re-entered France, embraced Mazarin near Aix, who had advanced two leagues to receive him, and then fell at the feet of Louis XIV. who assured him that every thing was forgotten. In order, however, that he might cease to be dangerous to the state, the troops who had fought so bravely under his command were sent to the assistance of the republic of Venice.

On the death of the cardinal, which occurred not long after, Condé determined to retire from court, for the express purpose of superintending the education of his son. Nearly at the same time (1664) he received 400,000 crowns from Spain, which he caused to be distributed among his friends, although he himself at that very moment was in great need of money. In 1665, he married the Duke d'Enghien to the Princess Palatine, Anne of Bavaria, on which he repaired to Chantilly, and spent his life tranquilly, surrounded by many of the great men of the age of Louis XIV.

In 1667, he sent his son to the army, then commanded by Turenne; and he himself, in 1668, was persuaded by the king to take the field also. On his appearance, Dole capitulated,

capitulated, and the whole of Franche Comté was obliged to submit.

In 1671, Condé separated from his consort, whom he had never loved. She was the niece of Cardinal de Richelieu, a man ever detested by him; but he ought to have recollected that she had been faithful to him amidst his misfortunes.

About the same time he was consulted by Louis XIV. on the best manner of depriving the Dutch of their commerce, to which he replied, "I know but one way, sire, and that is, to conquer Holland." War was accordingly declared, and his majesty immediately placed himself at the head of 110,000 men; being accompanied at the same time by the Prince, the Duke d'Enghien, and Turenne. On this occasion, a distinguished place was assigned in the camp to Condé; and when he complained of this to the king, Louis observed, "that he considered him the general in chief, and was anxious that all due honours should be paid to his highness."

As the prince was of opinion that his majesty had formerly failed in his attempt to conquer Flanders by dividing his forces, it was now determined to attack Holland with the whole of the French army; but there was a difference of opinion as to the mode; for Condé was inclined to proceed by the Meuse, while the king, by the advice of Turenne, preferred the Lower Rhine. It was on this occasion that Louis XIV. by the advice of the prince, crossed the Rhine with his army, an event celebrated at that period by means of pictures, medals, and prints, but which in our day has ceased to be considered as in the least important.

The hero of France, during an action with the Dutch, received a wound in the hand, in consequence of which he repaired to Emmerick, whence he sent word to his majesty that Amsterdam was the place against which all his efforts ought to be directed. "But the excessive prudence of another great man decided otherwise; and Louis XIV. was generally blamed on this occasion, for not having preferred the *fire* of Condé to the *lead* of Turenne.

The issue of this irruption into the United Provinces is well known, and it required no small share of skill and perseverance on the part of Luxembourg, to be able to bring back the French army in safety.

In 1673, the prince again took the

field; and being detained some time at Utrecht, where all the learned men of Holland were then assembled, by a fit of the gout, he eagerly sought their society, of which he never tired; and his genius and his knowledge produced that equality which his rank seemed to exclude. This hero was fully convinced that "the conversation of men of letters powerfully contributes to charm all ages and all ranks of life; that it forms infancy, enlightens youth, diverts manhood, consoles old age, and only affrights fools."

Although Condé appears at this period of his life not to have been very religious, yet he gave orders for public prayers, in which the success of his majesty's arms was invoked. The Catholics in the United Provinces appear to have been highly gratified with this measure; but it is frankly allowed, that the Protestants were better citizens and better patriots. "Their enthusiasm," we are told, "reanimated the courage of their chiefs, laid open the treasures of the rich, incited the labours of the poor, and added to the valour and the industry of all. Forts were elevated on every side, the dykes were cut, the country was laid under water; in fine, devastation, the usual companion of slavery and of death, became for this once the pledge of life and the guarantee of liberty. After having exhausted every human precaution, these heretics also dared to implore the assistance and succour of the Divinity; they elevated their prophane but suppliant hands towards heaven; they opposed fervour to regularity; and the least orthodox vows appeared to be the only ones attended to by the Supreme Being, who in his goodness undoubtedly attends rather to the necessities than the opinions of mankind."

At length, in 1676, the health of Condé obliged him to think in earnest of retreat, and "after thirty-five years of glory and success, he besought the king to bestow the command of the army on his son, who was then thirty-three years of age."

He returned, however, from Chantilly, on the marriage of the Prince of Conti with Mademoiselle de Blois. Previously to this he had been very simple and even very negligent in point of dress, but he now appeared in court, to the astonishment of every one, with his upper lip shaved, and his sword and clothes adorned with diamonds. On his return home, he began to embellish his noble residence, and at the same time kept up an acquaintance



quaintance with the greatest men of his time; in short, all who were illustrious among the magistrates, generals, men of letters, and artists of that day.

"The hero corresponded or conversed with Crevoy, Luxembourg, and Chamilly; the statesman, with d'Estrade, Barillon, Polignac; the Prince, with Boucherat, and Lamoignon; the connoisseur, with Mansard, Le Notre, and Coisevor; the man of eloquence, with Bossuet and Bourdaloue; the philosopher, with La Bruyere, and La Rochefaucauld; the man of letters, with Boileau, Racine, Santeuil La Fare, Mademoiselle de Scudery, and Madame de la Fayette."

Condé had hitherto paid little attention to his religious duties; "but the conversion of the Princess Palatine, the edifying death of the Prince de Conti, and still more, of his own sister, the Duchess de Longueville, effected greater wonders in a single moment than forty years of search and examination."

Having learned from one of his physicians that he could not expect to live longer than a few days, he occupied his whole attention with his duties as a parent and a christian. Father Deschamps acted on this occasion as his confessor, and that jesuit required of him "that he should make a public reparation for the scandal that he had occasioned."

After taking leave of his family and domestics, the great Condé expired, on Monday, December 11, 1686, at seven o'clock in the morning. On receiving intelligence of this event, Louis XIV. exclaimed, "I have then lost the greatest man in my whole dominions!" The corpse was carried without pomp to Valery, where it was interred with that of his ancestors; but his heart was deposited in the church belonging to the Jesuits, in the Rue-St. Antoine. A funeral service was performed at Notre Dame, on which occasion Bossuet pronounced one of his most celebrated orations.

#### MISCELLANIES.

"Copies des Lettres et Pièces écrites au Général en Chef de l'Armée d'Haïti."—Copies of Letters and Writings addressed to the General in Chief of the Army of Haïti; printed at St. Domingo in 1806 and 1807.

The war in Europe has long since extended itself to the West Indies, and St. Domingo at this period appertains to a new class of men, the majority of whom were formerly mere slaves, *adstricti glebæ*, like the bulk of the people

of England at a remote period of our history. After having driven out the French colonists, and overcome such of the regular troops as did not succumb under the diseases of a tropical climate, the chiefs at length contended among themselves for superiority, and a new civil war commenced, which at this moment is not wholly terminated.

The first letter, now before us, is dated from l'Anse-à-Veau, October 12, 1806, and is addressed by Etienne Gerin, minister at war, and a general of division, to the general in chief of the army of Haïti. He begins by complimenting Henry Christophe, who has since assumed the title of emperor, as the legitimate successor to the government of the island. "The tyranny," says he, "exercised over the army and people of Haïti, added to the destructive genius of the present emperor (Dessalines), has produced an insurrection on the part of the people of Cayes. On the 10th of this month, Colonel Et. Mentor, the inspector-general, had his head cut off, for attempting to enforce the orders received by him, which extended to the slaughter of all the old freemen, especially those of a yellow cast. The execution of this command, first entrusted to General Moreau, was prevented by Ouagnac, a colonel of cavalry, one of our good and brave brethren; Moreau has been arrested by the people; the troops have demanded their pay, and their situation is truly pitiable."

After stating a variety of particulars relative to the soldiery, the minister at war anticipates that a stop will soon be put to cultivation; that foreign commerce will be destroyed, and that the rich will be despoiled of all their property by the most cruel confiscations; for, adds he, "twenty thousand *gourdes* a-year are not sufficient to maintain one of the imperial concubines, of which there are at least twenty in number, while the ammunition destined for actual war is expended with prodigality in insignificant salutes, and not a single barrel of maize (Indian corn) is to be found in the stores. All this occurs too at a time when there ought to be no other object in view but for us to bury ourselves under the ruins of our country, or to defend it like free men. But as to liberty, good heavens! it is a vain name here, which no one dares to pronounce openly; although it be placed at the head of all our acts and declarations, it exists there alone.

"They have usurped the votes of the generals

generals for a constitution, the very first word of which they are ignorant of, and of which they never heard until it was published: as to the people, they detest it. If the despot of Constantinople had composed it, it could not have been more cruel: laws are in existence, and yet a recurrence is had to execution by means of muskets and bayonets during the night, and without any previous trial.

"In short, were any one to analyze the evils with which the people are oppressed, the French butchers themselves would be taught to blush! The public is shocked, and no man of sentiment can exist any longer under such a government. One can never die but once; and whoever permits himself to be debased, deserves to be so. As for me, I consent to nothing, but to recognise you for the first chief of this empire, until the happy moment shall arrive when I can have the opportunity to declare the same to you in person, and in the mean time I have the honour to be,

Your excellency's

Most humble servant and friend,

ET. GERIN."

The next letter is addressed from the chiefs of the forces of the South to the commander general of the army; and it is dated, Aux Cayes, October 13, 1806, and subscribed by Colonel Wagnac, the commandant of the first division, and also by Voltaire, Beauregard, Papalier, Vanevs, Racollie, Barret, Hoher, and Lacour." This epistle is preceded by the following motto, taken from a celebrated French author:

"Ils sont donc connus, ces secrets pleins d'horreurs!"

It is here intimated again, that Moreau, who had received written orders to exterminate all the unhappy class of *ci-devant* freemen of every colour, without distinction, was arrested. Dessalines is at the same time accused of having united to his own property the estates held by others in consequence of the most authentic titles; and of having levied money against the law. Henry Christophe is saluted as the general in chief, and vows are offered up on the part of the subscribers, who offer lives and fortunes, &c. that he may triumph over the emperor, with whom they expect he is now about to engage.

The third dispatch is dated at Port au Prince, October 18, 1806, and is addressed to the new commander in chief,

by Gerin, who designates himself the minister of war and the marine.

"A multitude of arbitrary acts, (says he) a reign of terror, injustice of every kind, added to a government, the end and aim of which was destruction and a total subversion of every thing, made it necessary that you should succeed to a tyrant, and make us forget, by means of your virtues and your talents, the excesses of our late Nero." He then intimates that the people had risen in a body, and that Dessalines had perished.

A letter from the celebrated Petion to his future rival, closes the correspondence. It is dated Port-au-Prince, October 16, 1806, and is addressed from Petion, general of division, and commander in chief of the second division of the west, to his excellency the general in chief of the army of Haïti, Henry Christophe.

"GENERAL,

"Escaped from that destruction, which the agents of an ungrateful and barbarous government had meditated against the inhabitants of this country, we have thought fit to confide the means of our restoration to a man, who in consequence of the personal dangers he has encountered, as well as his experience, may be enabled once more to introduce happiness among us. When abusing our patience, he forced us against our will, to cover his head with a diadem, we had reason to expect that on attaining the height of power and grandeur, he would have recollected that the edifice of his authority was but the work of our hands, and the price of our courage.

"Even he himself appeared to be penetrated with these sentiments, and we hoped that, sheltered by the laws, we should have enjoyed in peace the fruit of all those sacrifices, which we have unceasingly made. But what, general, was the result? Scarcely did he perceive his authority strengthened, when he forgot all his duties, and to the scorn of the sacred laws of a free people, he imagined there was no other real enjoyment, than that which springs from the exercise of the most despotic power, and the most outrageous tyranny.

"Our hearts have long sighed, on account of this state of affairs, and we for a while only employed submission and docility to bring him back to those principles of justice and moderation, with which he had promised to govern us.

"His last journey into the southern district, at length, however, fully developed his projects, even in the eyes of those who did



did not see them distinctly before, and fully proved to all, that there remained no other means of preservation either in respect to ourselves, or with a view to the external enemy, than to rise in a body, if we wished to avoid approaching destruction. This spontaneous movement, the offspring of our oppressed bosoms, has produced an effect to the full as prompt as lightning.

"In a few days, the two divisions of the South were under arms; nothing could stop such an irruption, because it was a movement equally just and sacred, proceeding from the rights of citizens, violated with impunity.

"We have joined our arms with those of our brethren of the South. Penetrated with the same sentiments as they, our united forces advanced to Port-au-Prince, in the most admirable order, preserving an exact discipline, and with a due respect to property, so that the labours of agriculture were not stopped for a single moment, nor a drop of blood spilt.

"That Providence which is infinite in its decrees, has been pleased to manifest itself in so just a cause, by conducting our oppressor to the fate which awaited him; and he has found the chastisement of his crimes, at the foot of the ramparts of a city, which he had marched to with his forces, in order to *float* it with the blood of his equals. In short, to make use of his last expressions, ("il voulait régner dans le sang") he wished to reign in blood!

"We should not have concluded our work, General, if we had not been penetrated with the recollection, that there existed a chief calculated to command the army, with all that latitude of power, of which until now he had only the appearance.

"It is in the name of the whole of this army, always faithful, obedient, and well disciplined, that we beseech you, General, to assume the reins of government, and enable us to enjoy the plenitude of our rights, and of that liberty for which we have so long combated, and at the same time to become the depositary of those laws, which we have sworn to obey, because they are just.

"I have the honour to salute you, with a respectful attachment,

"PETION."

The next paper, which has for its title, "*Resistance à l'Oppression*," appears to be a justificatory declaration in behalf of the insurgents. It is stated, that a frightful tyranny, long exercised

alike over the people and the army, had at length exasperated all, and induced them "to erect a mound against the torrent of devastation which menaced them."

"Every thing," it is added, "seemed to announce, that we were about to behold the renewal of those scenes of horror and proscription, those *dungeons*, those *gibbets*, those *funeral piles*, those *drownings*, of which we were the sad and unfortunate victims, under the iniquitous government of Rochambeau, of Darbois, of Ferrand, of Berger, &c. &c.

"In addition to the crime of despoiling many great proprietors, who had been thirty years in possession of their lands, but whose titles had been lost during the late commotions, the emperor was accustomed, in conformity to the example of the former government, to seize on the possessions of the little proprietors, and without regard to age or sex send them away from their homes: if particular considerations, or the general interest, could authorise such a measure" it is added, "would it not have been just to have granted an indemnification?"

"Commerce, at once the source of abundance and prosperity in states, languished under this stupid man, and experienced an apathy, arising solely from his vexatious and unjust conduct in respect to foreigners. Cargoes carried off by violence, and agreements violated as soon as contracted, repulsed vessels of every kind from our shores; the assassination of Thomas Thuat, an English merchant, respected in this country on account of his long residence, his irreproachable conduct, and the benefits by him conferred, has excited universal indignation. And for what cause was he murdered? Thomas Thuat was rich—this was his only crime! The Haitian merchants themselves were not treated better; the very advantages seemingly conferred on them, were bestowed with a view to the profit which could be derived from those privileges."

Towards the conclusion we meet with a document, entitled "*Relation de la Campagne Haïtienne contre la Tyrannie*," from which we learn that the insurrection was general both on the part of the citizens and soldiery, and that the conflict lasted from the 13th to the 17th of October. We are assured, that Dessalines rushed on his destruction, without the least anticipation of his fate, which gives occasion to the remark; (*Les Tyrans ont beaucoup de Flatteurs, et pas un vrai ami*), that tyrants have many flatterers

terers but never a real friend. A few only were wounded on the side of the insurgents, and but one killed.

On the 18th *Te Deum* was chaunted, "to celebrate this memorable day, which beheld the downfall of tyranny, and the birth of liberty."

The interesting pamphlet now before us, concludes with two letters from Henry Christophe, the present emperor, dated from his head quarters at Milot, one addressed to the minister at war, and the other to general Petion, professing that he was wholly *devoid of ambition*, and induced by the love of his fellow citizens alone, to undertake the burden imposed upon him by his duty, &c. The whole concludes with a paper, signed by a number of inhabitants both civil and military, declaring that they are willing that Christophe should be their new chief. It is evident, however, that their acquiescence is always qualified, and that they look forward to a constitution, which is to limit the authority, and regulate the conduct of the first magistrate.

"Liberté et Indépendance! Etat de Haïti:"—Liberty and Independence! The State of Hayti. This is the only title page to the new constitution of the island formerly known in succession, by the names of Hispaniola and St. Domingo.

The first article, dated at the Cape, Feb. 25, 1807, Fourth Year of Liberty, consists of a law, by which the seal of the President is to be affixed to all acts, until a great seal has been made for the state. It is signed by "Paul Romain Doyen, witnessed by Magny, Secretary, and countersigned by Henry Christophe, president and generalissimo of the forces by land and sea, at the palace of Cape Town, Feb. 26, 1807."

The next article is the copy of a law, which fixes the division of the territory of Haïti, which is made to consist:

1. Of the Island of Haïti.
2. Of the little islands dependent on it, to wit, Samara, La Tortue, La Gonaive, l'Isle à Vache, les Cayemites, la Saone, and the adjacent islets.

The whole is divided into five provinces, viz.

1. The province of the North, comprehending the parishes du Mole, de Bombarde, de Jean-Jabel, &c.
2. The province of the West, including the parishes des Gonaives, le Gros Morne, Terre Neuve, Jacmel, le Petit & Grand Goave.

3. The province of the South, comprehending St. Louis, Cavaillon, Les Cayes, Tiburon, &c.

4. The province of Cibao, is composed of the parishes of St. Yago, Porte Plate, La Vega, Samana, &c.

And 5, the province of Ozama, is formed of the parishes of Savannah la Mar, San Lorenzo, Santa Roza, San Gregorio de los Ingenios, Bari, Azaa, and San Juan de la Maguana.

The next law, appertains to the pay of the several rank of officers.

| GRAND STAFF.                          |   | Livres.         |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| A lieutenant-general is to have - - - | } | 35,000 per Ann. |
| A marshal de camp                     |   | 25,000          |
| A brigadier - - -                     |   | 12,000          |
| A colonel - - - -                     |   | 9,000           |
| A lieutenant-colonel -                |   | 7,000           |
| A captain - - - -                     |   | 4,000           |
| A first lieutenant - -                |   | 3,000           |
| A second lieutenant -                 |   | 2,200           |
| A colonel of infantry receives - - -  | } | 8,000           |
| A lieutenant-colonel -                |   | 6,600           |
| A captain - - - -                     |   | 3,600           |
| A first lieutenant - -                |   | 2,200           |
| A second lieutenant -                 |   | 1,900           |
| A serjeant of grenadiers - -          |   | 1 2 6           |
| A corporal - - - -                    |   | 0 18 0          |
| A grenadier - - - -                   |   | 0 12 6          |
| A drummer - - - -                     |   | 0 15 0          |

According to the law for the administration of the finances, there is to be an intendant established in every province, together with a controller, a treasurer, a director of domains, a weigh-master, and a store-keeper.

The Holy Catholic, Apostolic, Roman Religion is proclaimed; all persons, whatever may be their own particular faith, are ordered to respect the worship prescribed by the state, and sunday is the only day of repose for all the citizens, except the feast of the Annunciation, Christmas Day, the Assumption, &c. Neither public worship, nor any religious ceremony, except the administration of the sacrament to the sick, can take place before the rising or after the setting of the sun. No order, decree, or ecclesiastical law, although relating to matters purely spiritual, can be executed without the consent of the President and Generalissimo.

All the authorities both civil and military are to assist regularly at public worship, and the schoolmasters and mistresses are to conduct their scholars thither.

Military



Military honours, are to be rendered to the Holy Sacrament; the rectors and vicars are to be appointed by the President and Generalissimo, and the Apostolic Prefect: they alone are to preach the holy catholic, apostolic, and Roman religion, or administer the sacraments, within their own parishes.

There is to be a tribunal of peace established in every parish, composed of a judge, two assessors, and a register; but no action for more than one hundred gourds, is to be determined here, and it cannot decide finally, and without appeal, on any sum exceeding two hundred livres. The judges of the peace in every parish are to keep a register of births, marriages, and deaths.

In every arrondissement or circuit, there is to be a civil tribunal, which is to take cognizance of matters both civil and criminal; there are also to be tribunals of commerce, &c.

The act for regulating the succession of children to the property of their parents, abounds with a number of provisions, calculated for a particular state of society. As in Europe it is decreed, "that natural children cannot inherit the property of their parents as such; but they are allowed to succeed to the effects of collaterals, and may be adopted by either father or mother, or both. Children springing from an incestuous or adulterous commerce, can never be recognized.

No property is to be disposed of to any one at public auction, without the permission of the president; the cultivators are to be taken care of, during health and sickness, by the proprietor, who is to keep a scrupulous account of the profits, one fourth of which is to be delivered to them, and he is in every point of view to act as the real father of a family. None of the cultivators are to be decoyed from a plantation where they have established their residence, to any other spot, under the penalty of 200 gourds for every person so decoyed, whether male or female.

By the last law, included in this compilation, the former regulation, in consequence of which, ten per cent was levied on all sugars, cottons, and chocolate, is revoked, and the council of states on the proposition of the president and generalissimo, decree, that this duty shall be retained on coffee alone. No impost whatever is to be demanded, on the articles above enumerated, after the 1st. of July, 1807. The tax, called "quart de subvention," hitherto imposed on the property of those who farm the lands of the

state, is suppressed, and they are thenceforth only to pay the sum agreed upon.

It appears that Christophe has a negative, in respect to every act; the following is the concluding *formula* adopted by him.

"We the president and generalissimo of the forces by land and sea of the State of Haïti, have sanctioned, and hereby sanction the present law; we at the same time ordain, that it shall be accompanied by the impression of the great seal of that state, and publicly executed throughout the whole extent of the territory of Haïti.

"Given at the palace of the Cape, this 21st. of June, 1807, the Fourth Year of Independence."

"HENRY CHRISTOPHE."

As the copy of an original letter from the black emperor, may gratify many of our readers, we here subjoin a short one, to the general who now contends with him for the dominion of Haïti:

"*Au quartier général de Milot, le 23 Octobre 1806, l'an trois de l'indépendance.*

MON CAMARADE,

"Je m'empresse de répondre à votre lettre du 16 du courant, qui vient de m'être remise avec les exemplaires de la déclaration faite par les divisions du Sud et la 2<sup>ème</sup> division de l'Ouest.

"Les griefs que vous exposés contre la conduite et les actes arbitraires dont nous avons été les témoins et les tristes victimes, et qui nous plaçaient dans un état de nullité sous le règne qui vient de passer, méritent la plus grande attention pour assurer l'empire des lois dans notre pays. Les mesures que vous avez prises pour le maintien de l'ordre, dès qu'elles étaient nécessaires, sont sages; j'ai agi de même ici, en ordonnant, en ce moment, que les divisions du Nord, la première de l'Ouest, fussent payées et habillées. Faites connaître à tous nos frères d'armes de l'armée du Sud et de l'Ouest, que j'approuve la bonne conduite qu'ils ont tenue en cette circonstance, puisque l'ordre n'a pas été troublé; ce qui doit toujours être la base de notre Constitution.

"Le choix qu'ils ont fait de moi en m'appellant à la place honorable et pénible du gouvernement, imposent de grandes obligations. Personne mieux que vous, mon Camarade, ne connaît mes principes et mon désintéressement pour

\* The Editor is in possession of a file of the Gazettes of Haïti, which is as well printed as most of the newspapers of Europe. It consists of four pages, small quarto.

tout espèce d'emploi; il a fallu un aussi puissant motif pour me déterminer à accepter ce fardeau énorme, avec la persuasion que j'ai, que vous concurrez, en votre particulier, à m'aider de vos lumières lorsque le bien public l'exigera.

"Jem'étends plus au long, par cette occasion, au général Gerin, à qui j'écris; je vous prie de vous entendre avec lui, pour maintenir le bon ordre, jusqu'à ce que les lois soient définitivement organisées; ce qui ne doit pas éprouver du retard.

"J'ai l'honneur de vous saluer avec considération,"

"HENRY CHRISTOPHE."

"Memoires, &c."—Memoirs relative to Arts and Sciences, Medicine, &c.

The French have long been celebrated on account of their attention to anatomy, and the plates of Viscq d'Azir, physician to Louis XVI. are perhaps the most splendid that have ever appeared in any country of Europe. Florence, however, hitherto so famous as an asylum for the master-pieces of the fine arts, possessed, until very lately, a series of anatomical preparations unrivalled on account of their exquisite perfection, in point of manual skill, and, what is infinitely more desirable, their near approach and resemblance to nature. These objects were acquired in consequence of a fortunate train of circumstances: the munificence of a grand-duke, the scientific skill of the Abbé Fontana, &c. the exemplary labours of the artist Mascagni.

Laumonier, a surgeon of Rouen, in the *ci-devant* Normandy, has dedicated twenty years of his life to researches of this kind, and, with the assistance of his wife, (who is sister not only to the physician Thouret, a celebrated chemist, and author of "*Le rapport sur les Exhumations du Cimetiere des Innocens*," but also to the famous, but unfortunate advocate of the same name,) he has acquired a great reputation in France.

In consequence of this he became, some years since, a candidate for a share of the 300,000 livres, distributed annually among artists and men of letters, by the *Bureau de consultation des Arts & Metiers*, an establishment consisting of thirty members chosen by scrutiny, from among the different societies of learned men. Dessault and Hallé, two of the first surgeons in Paris, were selected to make a report on the occasion, a translation of which follows. The result was highly favourable to the artist, for the candidate not only received 6000 livres in

money, a sum which forms the *maximum* of the first class of national recompences, but it was voted, that he should have a right to present himself, at the next distribution, in order to sue for a similar reward.

"Report delivered to the *Bureau de consultation des Arts and Metiers*, relative to the anatomical labours, and preparations of M. Laumonier, chief surgeon of the *Hôtel Dieu* at Rouen, by the citizens Dessault, chief surgeon of *l'Hospice d'Humanité*, and Hallé, Hygean professor to *l'Ecoles de Santé*."

"In order to appreciate the merits of the citizen Laumonier, it may be necessary to present a succinct account of what has been already accomplished in similar cases.

"After the discovery of the circulation of the blood, that of the lymphatics or absorbent vessels must be allowed to have thrown the greatest light on the animal economy. Rudbeck first ascertained them on the liver, in the same manner as Asellius had before pointed out the lacteal vessels in the mesentery. The difficulty was much greater to discover them in the spleen, the kidneys, the lungs, and the other *viscera*; and although Thomas Bartholin had ascertained some lymphatic vessels in the extremities of animals, it has only been very lately that these, as well as the rest of the absorbent system, have been successfully demonstrated in man.

"In short, notwithstanding the multiplied labours of anatomists, on this subject, and although the science has been enriched by the discoveries of a Cruickshank, a Hunter, and a Sheldon, a general system of demonstration was still wanting to the art, when the Academy of Sciences deemed this the proper object of a prize, which it accordingly proposed in 1786; but no attempt whatever was made to obtain it. Soon after, however, appeared the famous work of Mascagni.

"While Mascagni was intent on this subject, the citizen Laumonier was busied in the same manner. In 1775, he commenced his researches relative to the absorbent system, in fishes and birds. Encouraged by his success, he followed up his ideas, and concluded with quadrupeds and man. At length, in the month of January 1780, he exhibited the demonstration of the whole system in the hospital of Metz.

"The art of injecting the vessels, so as to render them conspicuous, and facilitate



tate the anatomist's researches, is of an ancient date, but it had been long imperfect. It is to Eustachius, Graaf, Swammerdam, and especially Ruysch, that it is indebted for the progress it has made; and were we to give credit to all that has been said, relative to the wonders effected by the latter, he must have carried it to the highest degree of perfection, if it may be termed *perfecting on art*, to conceal from mankind the means by which success has been obtained. No one, since Ruysch, has been able to resolve the problem of which he is said to have rendered himself master: that of joining to the fineness of the injections, and the preservation of the parts, all that freshness as well as suppleness, and all those appearances of life, or at least of sleep and tranquillity, which his panegyrists have attributed to him.

"The most delicate and difficult portion of the whole process, consists in the management of the lymphatic vessels. Those who begin by seizing on some particular trunk, do not succeed; a prodigious quantity of valves and sinuosities, oppose the passage of the most subtle liquids, by means of new trunks and ramifications. They must be operated upon by extremely slender instruments, and the tubes used in the injections, ought to be of an amazing minuteness. Mercury has hitherto been the sole substance that has succeeded in the hands of anatomists, and it is impossible for any one to be more successful in the management of it than M. de Laumonier.

"As to the injection of the other vessels, however easy it may be to effect in the usual manner, it is extremely difficult to obtain that degree of perfection, which can alone render the minutest vascular ramifications visible, without any alteration of their positions. The greater number of injections when carried to this point, burst the calibre, and we can then only make one induction, that the permeable canals penetrate this or that part, but the true disposition, and the just proportion of these canals are most commonly concealed. In short, it is no longer nature.

"It is necessary on these occasions, to employ a thin substance, the tenuity of which will not be affected by a great degree of heat, and in the employment of which, force is unnecessary. M. Laumonier is one of the artists who has the best fulfilled the conditions of this problem; a great number of preparations afford a sufficient proof of his skill.

"The vessels are of an uniform diameter,

and not knotty; no where are the traces of effort to be discovered. Their number in the pituitary membrane, make them appear confused to the eye; but the magnifying glass exhibits them distinctly, and notwithstanding their extreme delicacy, no extravasation, or dilatation is visible; all the calibres are distinct, and the object appears to be one entire bundle, or rather network of vessels, whose fineness conceals them from the eye, and whose minuteness renders their structure still more inconceivable.

"M. Laumonier injects these vessels by means of a *cold* preparation, and his success confirms the excellence of his means, and his method.

"In anatomical subjects, the membranes generally become dry; although the vessels remain, the forms are obliterated, and the cabinet of injections presenting only imperfect traces of organization, affords but a melancholy and unfaithful idea of nature.

"The eye of the most skilful practitioner cannot recognize any thing but by the force of *abstraction*, and by replacing in idea that which has disappeared, by the side of that which remains. He sees merely because he has seen, and distinguishes merely because he has been accustomed to observe. The art of injecting the lymphatic vessels is still that in which success is the most fugitive and precarious. What ought to be done? Lay hold on Nature, and transmit to the eyes of others, by means of a faithful portrait, whatever is visible to the eye of the scientific observer. But who can do this better than the observer himself? For the modeller, even when directed by the anatomist, can only give satisfaction to the ignorant.

"M. Laumonier felt this defect. He accordingly calculated his compositions, formed, and tinged his materials, and the wax artfully coloured, under the inspection of an experienced eye, and moulded by fingers animated by intelligence, has exhibited the most various forms, and the most exact representations: in short, he has doubled our pleasures, for he has at once discovered and fixed nature. By the side of him, another *self*, no less zealous for his glory, no less skilful in following up his ideas, lends him the assistance of hands already exercised in light and delicate textures, but which have more than once forsaken the labours of Minerva for others far more austere and glorious: in short, the Madame Laumonier has assisted her husband,

husband, and several subjects have been actually finished by her.

After this, it is easily to conceive, and we may be permitted to observe, that the famous operations of the cabinet of Florence, formed under the inspection of Fontana, by the skill of Mascagni and other celebrated artists, have been greatly surpassed by Laumonier; and all those who have examined the arteries, veins, nerves, and absorbent vessels, in the preparations of both, bestow the palm of superiority on the former artist.

"There is only one wish which remains to be gratified, and it is that able pupils may be educated under, and attain to the talents and knowledge of such a master. In this respect he is far from being desirous to imitate the example of Ruysch, who was jealous of, and zealous to conceal his art, not only from his contemporaries, but even from posterity.

"The Committee of Public Instruction have engaged him to construct complete systems of the absorbent vessels and nerves, for the *School of Health*. When these are finished, our country will not have any occasion to envy Florence; and the travellers who have admired the *chefs-d'œuvre* of Mascagni, will not be satisfied unless they have also examined those of Laumonier, in the cabinets of Rouen and Paris."

The following paper will serve to shew that the French have always viewed our possessions in the East Indies with a jealous eye:—

"Observations relative to the Oriental Languages, in a Commercial and Diplomatic Point of View; by LAKANAL.

"Would not the neglect of the oriental languages, which serve as the organ of diplomatic proceedings be no less than abandoning our consulships in the East, to men incapable of stipulating for the interests of the empire? Would not this break off all correspondence with distant nations? I say more—it would be to outrage humanity, which enforces it as a duty to commit the destinies of the French nation to the wisdom of negotiations, as well as to the decision of the sword.

The most useful of the oriental languages may be divided into two classes: the living and the dead, comprehending the *sanskrit* and the *pakrit*, languages of Hindostan; the *zend*, *pazend* and *pehlevy*, languages of Persia; the Hebrew Chaldean Samaritan, Syriac, and all the other biblical languages.

"The knowledge of the latter, is in-

dispensable for obtaining an intimate knowledge with the antiquities of Asia; but they are not to be attained, except in the bosom of tranquillity: during the agitations that inevitably accompany and follow great revolutions, every subject is accountable for every moment of his time to his country. It is not the same with the former, for it is necessary to obtain them, if we intend to negotiate advantageously with the natives of Asia. On the other hand the learned will be enabled to extract from the different oriental works on astronomy, chemistry, medicine, &c. materials that will be eminently serviceable in respect to the arts and sciences.

"Let us take a geographical survey of the principal living oriental languages. The Japanese is a dialect of the Chinese, and consequently presents great difficulties; in addition to this, the natives are prohibited from teaching it to the Dutch, who are the only Europeans admitted into their country. We only possess a little Japanese vocabulary, published at Rome, by father Collado, and a grammar and vocabulary, which are contained in vol. III. of Thunberg's Voyages.

"The Chinese presents insurmountable difficulties, notwithstanding the efforts made to obviate these by Kircher, John Webb, Bayer Fourmount, and several missionaries. Chinese literature is prodigiously rich, as may be seen from the notices contained in the fifteen volumes entitled "*Mémoires concernant les Arts & les Sciences chez les Chinois*," and by the catalogue of the numerous works in this language deposited at the Imperial Library.

"These literary treasures would have been useless to foreigners, if the *Mantchoux Tartars*, masters of China since 1644, had not erected several *tribunals of learned men*, who were solely employed in translating Chinese books into *Montchou*; the latter language is incomparably less difficult, for it possesses an alphabet and a grammar. It is capable of supplying the place of the Chinese in commercial operations as well as in letters; it is the mother language of all the Tartar idioms made use of in the north of Asia, and we possess a *Mantchou* dictionary in 3 vols. 4to. Events have hitherto retarded the publication of some other good works destined to render the knowledge of this language popular.

"The Thibetan, which is spoken only in Thibet, but cultivated in most of the eastern and northern countries of Asia,



Asia, includes the books of *Bedda*, whose sacred impostures may be regarded as the origin of all those which at present exercise the credulity of mankind. Father Georgi published in 1772, a work entitled, *Alphabetum Thibetanum*, replete with erudition, but insufficient in respect to the attainment of this language, which, besides, cannot be of any utility in regard to our political relations.

"The *Malay*, a language originally from the peninsula of Malacca, is made use of in all the islands of the Indian ocean. Every traveller agrees as to the utility of this language in respect to commerce. The Portuguese, English, and Dutch, have published elementary books of it; it is written in Arabic characters, to which are added certain *diacritical* points, in order to give them a new value.

"The vulgar idioms of India, are the *Tamoull*, which is spoken from the coast of Orixá to cape Comorin, and at Cochin; the *Tulingao*, the *Moorish*, the *Hindoo-stanee*; which are far sooner learned by use, than by means of masters.

"The Persian is necessary in our future transactions with the *nabobs*; but it differs from what is spoken in Persia, both in regard to the pronunciation, and the characters.

"The English East India Company, encourages the study of it, by means of large sums which it expends yearly for that purpose. This language abounds with admirable poetry; Saadi, Háfiz, Djamy, and a multitude of other writers, have demonstrated that their nation does not yield to the Arabians, either in imagination, or fecundity: it even possesses more taste, and grace in point of style, and it is with great propriety that the Persians are termed the *French of Asia*.

"The Arabic is spread throughout all the Mussulman states, nearly the whole south of Asia, in a great part of Africa, more especially Barbary. The Arabian literature is very rich, and among other precious works, it possesses translations from Greek originals, which have never been handed down to us. There is no elementary book, either of the Arabian or Persian, in French, and yet such productions are numerous.

"The Turkish language presents but few resources for literature, but our connections with the Ottoman Porte do not permit us to neglect the study of it."

"Le ci-devant Paris:" or, "Paris as it was a few Months before the Revolution." As this is a curious article, we

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shall present the whole of it to our readers.

The following is a Letter from a Prussian nobleman at Paris to his friend at Berlin, written in the beginning of 1789, &c. containing an account of the men of letters residing in the former capital, the academies, the spectacles, &c. &c.

"I am at Paris—the very name is so connected with great objects, and such delightful recollections, that my ideas are confounded, and I am scarcely able to contemplate the dazzling spectacle which this superb city presents to my imagination. Since the distant period, when "four oxen paraded the indolent monarch through the streets of Paris," until the splendid age of Louis XIV. when Perreault decorated the front of the Louvre; Le Brun and Le Sueur animated the canvas; Moliere made both court and city laugh at their own expence; Boileau lashed with his satirical scourge all the bad authors of his time; La Fontaine aspired to, and obtained immortality; Racine surprised in the inmost folds of the heart the true language of the passions; Bossuet, after having dragged man along the tombs, elevated him to heaven in a car of fire; Fenelon, nourished with the milk of the ancients, squandered useful lessons on kings; or the melancholy, but profound Pascal sounded the depth of our ignorance:—from the Gothic magnificence of Dagobert, until the time when the great Condé wept at the verses of the great Corneille, and when Nature exhausted herself, as it were, in assembling men of genius around the throne of Louis, what a series of interesting personages, and memorable events, of which Paris has been at once the cradle and the theatre, the very remembrance of which animates all the street, edifices, and even the foot-paths.

"What friend of humanity can survey the statue of Henry IV. without saluting it with a tender veneration! what secret horror must not one experience while passing through the rue de la Féronnerie, where this good king was assassinated. The Louvre, the Hotel de Bourbon, le Caveau\*, and le Caffé Procope\*, the spots on which great events have been acted, and where they have been celebrated, excite our sensibility, and combine the association of moral and local ideas.

\* Where the men of letters and men of wit were accustomed to assemble.

" Pardon me this burst of enthusiasm. I return to you, my dear friend: you do not love politics; in the arts, you pretend not to be a connoisseur; literature alone interests you, and it is relative to it that I am now about to write to you.

" The present, is scarcely a favourable moment of literature. The French live on their past glory, in the same manner that a merchant without any money lives on his credit. Debauchery, which ever since the time of the Regency, occupied the place of gallantry, the precious remnant of the days of chivalry, has equally depraved the taste and the morals. The ladies have become judges of literature, and placed themselves on the throne of criticism; formed as they are, to seize the delicate shades of sentiment, and decide on sallies of wit, they are not equally calculated to appreciate profound meditation, and the burning energy of real eloquence. What is *grand* therefore, is no longer known; and what is *pretty*, is alone cultivated. The dissipated lives of men of letters bereaves them of the time necessary for great works, while it deprives them of that peculiar turn of mind, which conveys a colour of originality to their writings.

" The writers of the last age, closely following the steps of the ancients, have seized those simple and striking features, which characterise true beauty; their descendants have wished to excel them, but they have fallen into turgidity and exaggeration.

" The exact sciences, and especially physics, have annihilated poetry; general ideas have been substituted in the place of the pleasing fictions of antiquity; abstractions instead of images, maxims and sentences instead of a picture of the passions: such is the character of the poems which we behold born one day, in order to die the next. All these causes have produced the decadency of literature. Who knows what may be the influence of the approaching revolution on the republic of letters? We have constantly perceived, that the agitation of political convulsions has always been followed by great success in the arts and sciences.

" There are a great number of literary men in this capital, who live, and will perhaps ever remain unknown, notwithstanding this efforts at celebrity. Many of the poets who compose verses in despite of Apollo, stand a chance of dying from hunger, while they in their turn make their readers die from mere *ennui*:

this however, is a necessary effect, arising from the progress of knowledge, and the success of genius: one good work produces a thousand monsters in imitation of it. Out of ten theatrical pieces brought forward annually at the *Théâtre François*, there are not two that have any thing like a complete success. The vanity of these men is intolerable! I listened to the tragedy of one, the plot of which was founded on the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and really thought it passable, until the author hinted to me how superior it was to that of *Bérénice*.

" I have formed an acquaintance with the Abbé\* Delille, on whom I wait at nine o'clock in the morning, as it is necessary to catch him on his rising from bed; for he has no sooner composed five or six verses, than he jumps into his cabriolet, and drives about during the whole day. He is a little frisky man, whose eyes sparkle with wit and fire. He is in a continual agitation; lively, roguish, and at home the best creature in the world. I had already heard him recite some morsels of his Poem on the Imagination at the Academy, and he has since favoured me with a variety of passages. It is wit rather than imagination that has guided his pencil. This new poem contains more beauties than that called '*Les Jardins*,' but they are beauties of the same kind. A soft melancholy is spread over both these compositions, and each of them is strictly consonant with moral propriety. As he does not commit any of his verses to paper, but carries them all in his head, they are thought to be extemporaneous; the fire darting from his eye, the expression of his countenance, and his quick and apposite movements, while he recites them, at once announce and produce enthusiasm, so that one is tempted to exclaim, *Deus, ecce Deus!*

He tells me that he adores the country, and is passionately addicted to solitude; yet he is constantly in the world. A single anecdote will fully depict his malignity. When his *Georgics* were published, a sorry writer, called Rosset, happened to compose a poem on agriculture, in which he mentioned Delille with scorn. It was at that time the fashion to make cabriolets out of pasteboard. The Abbé accordingly employed the works of his rival, which were rotting at his bookseller's, and while driving along in his

\* M. Delille is since dead. His nephew, who is at once a poet and soldier, is the author of the celebrated *Marseillois March*.  
carriage.



carriage, jocosely exclaimed 'I tread Rosset under my feet; after which I drag him through the mud!'

M. Goldoni, the author of about forty comedies, or Italian dramas, which have had but little reputation among foreigners, and also of an excellent French comedy *Le Bourru bienfaisant*, is a gay old man of eighty, with more good nature than wit, and who, notwithstanding his advanced age, still thinks he has strength sufficient left, to finish a piece entitled *L'Avare fastueux*.

Roucher, chanter of the Months, appears to be a poet of an amiable character, attached to his friends, and replete with sensibility. At first rated above his real merits, his reputation has since been permitted to decline below them; the praise he once received from the public, makes him now protest against its present injustice. He is busied on an epic poem: Gustavus Vasa is his hero; the subject is a good one, for it affords great actions, a new scene, and novel manners.

Roucher lately read to us some admirable verses, written by him on the death of the interesting and respectable Dupaty, too early snatched away from letters and humanity. He also told me a curious anecdote: The famous work, entitled *Système de la Nature*, attributed to so many different persons, is the production of Baron d'Holbach, revised by Diderot. Several persons were in the secret, and what is equal to an eulogium on men of letters, they never allowed the least iota to transpire until after the death of the baron. D'Alembert considered this book as irrefutable; a circumstance less likely to constitute the panegyric of the work itself, than a satire on the philosophy of D'Alembert. It appears to me that every man who draws his arguments from Spinoza, may easily achieve any of the other treatises on atheism.

"I often see a man of a most amiable character, M. Bernardin de St. Pierre. Read his work entitled *Etudes de la Nature*, and you will discover many interesting passages in it. His physical hypotheses border a little on the chimerical. He deems himself able to refute the Newtonian system, and explain the phenomenon of the tides by the melting of the polar ice. But those parts in which he treats of the happiness of man, the vices of society, and where he so admirably explains the contrarieties of our nature, are replete with novel ideas, described in excellent language. The man himself affects one by his simplicity;

he possesses the manner and the simplicity of a child.

"His misfortunes, and the solitude in which he lives, have given a slight colouring of melancholy to his conversation, which is sage and instructive, without being brilliant or witty. He lives at a distance from the noise of Paris, like a true philosopher, in a little house which appertains to him, and where he passes away his time in reading, meditation, the cultivation of his garden, and the care of his birds and his bees. He was intimately acquainted with J. J. Rousseau. We lately spent a most delicious day in his company at the *Pré St. Germain*, a walk a little way out of town, which Rousseau had taken a great fancy to, and whither he often repaired to enjoy his reveries.

"M. de St. Pierre was at Berlin after the Seven Years' War, and was on the point of entering into our service. Berlin pleased him exceedingly; in the third volume of his *Etudes*, he has presented the world with a charming eulogium on the domestic virtues, and agreeable society of the inhabitants.

"You are too friendly to female authors, to pardon my silence respecting them. I assure you that they are far more modest and agreeable than those who, without being able to write, pretend sometimes to know and to decide on every thing. Madame le Comtesse de B\*\*\*, who has composed some very pretty verses, does not want wit, and speaks but little of herself. The first day I was introduced to her, she was sitting on a sofa in her cabinet, and had not disdained the cares of her toilette. Around her fluttered a swarm of wits, learned men, real or pretended philosophers, among others the advocate B\*\*\*\*, who pretends that all languages are derived from the *Bas-Breton*, and who boasts of knowing a great number, although he is unacquainted with Greek.

"Shall I speak to you of Mademoiselle de Keralio, who in her History of Queen Elizabeth seems to have almost abjured her sex in the perpetuity of her erudition, whose amiable vivacity is singularly contrasted with her works? Of the Baroness de Vaize, who has translated the English Plutarch, and composed several original works, which she seems to have forgotten? Of Madame Monnet, author of several charming Oriental tales, and whose renown perhaps has not reached you?

"But I pass lightly over all the stars  
of

of inferior magnitude to come to Made-moiselle Clairon,\* the *dowager* of the French theatre, and in whose person I seem to behold all the queens of the French tragedies united. She still preserves in her own house that grave and majestic tone she formerly exhibited on the theatre; and it is comical enough to hear her command her domestics, as if she were still a sovereign of Carthage. She speaks admirably, perhaps too well for conversation. Accustomed to reign over the stage, she has been spoiled by the applauses of the public, and the compliments of her adorers; it is no wonder therefore, that she does not love contradiction. She read a work to us, composed by herself; the subject is "declamation;" and in it she traces not only the accomplishments but the studies which an actor or actress ought to pursue, if ambition, and the desire to excel, be the ruling passion.

Towards the conclusion she points out, with a masterly hand, the difference between the characters of Monimia, Paulina, and Roxana; there is a passage truly eloquent relative to Electra. She recites with such exquisite truth, that I thought I beheld the princess embracing the urn of Orestes; the tears instantly rushed into my eyes. She says that the actress who performs the part of Phedra ought to assume the air and manner of a sleep-walker; and, in truth, this is the idea excited by the following charming line:—

'Ah! que ne suis-je assise à l'ombre des forêts!'

"In general, I find this work superior to that written on the same subject by Engel; there is less depth, indeed, but it is far better fitted for practice.

"I have been thrice present at the sittings of the French Academy. The apartments in the *Louvre* are small, and the situation is inferior to that of Berlin. The walls are ornamented with the busts of all the great men who were formerly members; and it may be truly said, that the dead are superior to the living. Several of those who have chairs there at present, are indebted solely to their intrigues. During the life-time of Voltaire, it was necessary to obtain a *brevet* of irreligion, prior to that of an academician; and since that period, the candidate found it necessary to bow before the literary despotism which D'Alem-

bert exercised during the latter part of his life.

"The last day I was present, M. Nicolai, president of the chamber of Accounts, was admitted. The benches were occupied by two o'clock, and two thirds of the assembly consisted of ladies. At four, the academicians entered in a body, with the new member at their head. I saw Le Sedaine, the herald of the comic opera; Gaillard, the historian of Charlemagne, who has neither inherited the pen of Livy nor of Tacitus. He dared publicly to compliment the debaucheries of Richelieu, under the name of *chivalrous gallantry*. I also saw the fantastical Le Mierre, whose verses resemble the funereal screeches of the bird of night.

"After these appeared the ornaments of the academy, Target and Seguier, two advocates who have consecrated their talents to the defence of justice; Bailly, whose fruitful imagination has created a hyperborean people, and who has decked up an ingenious paradox with the charms of elocution; Boufflers, the favourite of the Muses; Saint-Lambert, the chanter of the Seasons, and with whom the spring and summer smack a little of the frost of winter; Florian, an agreeable imitator but not the rival of Gesner.

"M. Nicolai read a discourse, in which he was pleased to term M. de la Harpe the French Sophocles. In the customary but ridiculous eulogium on Louis XIV. and Cardinal Richelieu, he spoke of the latter as 'a powerful genius, who had subjugated Europe, France, and even his own sovereign.' M. de Rhuliers, a man of great knowledge and talents, and who contributed not a little to the new law in favour of the Protestants, by means of his Remarks on the Revocation of the Edict of Nantz, and his connexion with the Baron de Breteuil, made the reply. He afterwards delivered an eulogy on the Marquis de Chattellux, to whom the new academician succeeded, and he justly praised that humanity which had dictated his charming work "On public Happiness." This treatise, in which the author endeavours to establish, that literature and the sciences are necessary to the welfare of states, gave rise to the 'Phocion' of the Abbé Mably, who following the principles of the ancient legislators, refutes this opinion, and attributes every thing to morals. The abbé is not eloquent, but energetic; and his two posthumous works, 'Les Observations sur l'Histoire de France,' and 'Le Traité des

\* This famous actress is since dead.



*des Droits et des Devoirs du Citoyen,* are his best.

"The Academy of Sciences is far more celebrated than the French Academy, more especially since it has enriched itself at our expence, and possesses M. de la Grange. La Place calculates the motions of the celestial bodies, while Lalande and Messier observe them. Fourcroy, De Machy, and Lavoisier decompose terrestrial bodies, and while D'Aubenton and De la Cépède write natural history, Charles enriches natural philosophy by means of new experiments, in the same manner as Teissier and Le Roi confer benefits on meteorology, through the medium of new observations.

"The Academies, however, are no longer what they were formerly, a point of union for the thoughts of great men, and the focus in which were concentrated all the scattered rays of genius, in order to be reflected with greater force. Notwithstanding this observation, the Academy of Sciences is far more useful than its elder sister the French Academy, not only on account of the nature of the questions it proposes, the direction and encouragement it affords to talents, but also by the assistance it presents to agriculture and the arts, in facilitating labours of every kind, and inventing or simplifying machines, in order to economize human labour.

"Condorcet, in his quality of secretary, after having adjudged the prizes and proposed new questions, read the eulogy of M. Turgot, brother to the celebrated minister of the same name. The subject did not afford much scope for talent, and the manner in which it was written was far from being interesting. Condorcet has almost entirely abandoned the exact sciences, in order to devote himself entirely to politics. He is much occupied about public affairs, and is not a little chagrined at not being a deputy to the national assembly. His physiognomy is noble, and his eye betokens thought. The walls of this, like those of the French Academy, are decorated with busts. One there beholds those of Cassini, the Marquis de l'Hospital, Fontenelle, Maupertuis, La Condamine, &c. I greatly approve of those monuments erected to great men in the very sanctuary of science; it is natural that they should preside over their labours, and become the tutelary deities of the temple. I wish that the academicians of Berlin were also surrounded by Euler, Lambert, Margraff, Sulzer, and that

the statue of Leibnitz were placed in the midst of the hall.

The Louvre is no longer the abode of kings, it is abandoned to the academies, to the men of letters, whom the king permits to lodge there, and to the archives of the crown. This noble edifice communicates with the palace of the Thuilleries by means of an immense gallery. What a pity that the gallery intended to correspond with it has never been constructed, and that, instead of building new castles, they have never finished this superb monument. The celebrated colonnade is superior to the reputation it enjoys, and never did architecture speak to my imagination with more force. What great and majestic proportions! What noble simplicity! Every time I behold it I am irritated at Boileau, and indignant at the satire with which he unjustly overwhelms the illustrious Perrault. In truth, if genius consists in tracing a grand outline, and in affecting the sensibility, I hesitate between the merits of the author of the satire and those of the author of the colonnade. The gallery of communication between the Louvre and the Thuilleries ought to be employed as a museum. They are now busied in collecting all the pictures of the great masters, and placing the antiquities, and the statues of all the men of genius who have done honour to France.

"Besides the two I have already mentioned, there are a couple more academies in this capital, that of Inscriptions and that of Painting. The members of the former support, encourage, and facilitate the study of the ancients in France. The Abbé Barthelemy, M. Dussault, and some others of them, knew how to unite what is solid with what is agreeable. The first of these reminds us of the sages of Greece, whom he himself has so admirably described in his *Young Anacharsis*. He never expected that that work would have become so popular: that *Encyclopædia of Greece*; that composition of simplicity and elegance appeared to him scarcely to rise above mediocrity; his modesty is equally rare and affecting.

"As to the bulk of the people here, as every where else, the middle class is the best; among them the names of father, son, and wife, are still uttered with respect. It is far otherwise in the fashionable world. My lord and my lady inhabit the two extremities of the house, treat each other like strangers, abandon

abandon the sons to the tuition of a mercenary preceptor, and place the daughters in a convent, whence they never come forth, unless to receive husbands from the hand of a parent, actuated by avarice and ambition.

"A certain air of study and affectation has for some time occupied the *beau monde*, and even taken possession of the theatres. The new comedies are replete with a sentimental jargon, and the dialogue often aims at being epigrammatic; the art of Moliere seems entirely lost; no more droll incidents, pleasing situations, or original characters.

The age of great actors is past. La Dumesnil has retired on account of old age; Mademoiselle Clairon no longer makes her appearance in a theatre; Le Kain is dead; Aufrene is in Russia; and Brizard and La Live have quitted the French theatre. I ought, however, to do justice to the talents of those two great actresses, Mlle. de Raucoux and Mlle. de Gareins. I have seen the former in the characters of Leontina and Agrippina; in that of Cleopatra she chilled me with affright when she exclaimed:

"Epargne moi l'horreur de mourir à ses yeux!"

Besides the French theatre, there are six other spectacles. The Parisians, like the Romans of old, seem to demand nothing so much as bread and shows. The Opera is the most perfect representation ever witnessed by me. 'Edipe à Colone,' accompanied by the music of Sacchini, made me fancy myself at Athens, and I actually began to think I was listening to a Greek tragedy. As to dancing, all the world knows to what perfection it is carried here, and that too by a vain creature, who, pluming himself on his art, exclaims, 'that there never were and never will be but one Frederic, one Voltaire, and one Vestris!' Adieu."

"Voyage à Petersburg, &c."—A Journey to Petersburg, by MASSELIERE, to which is added an Historical View of the Russian Empire, 1 vol. 8vo.

This is a new edition of a work, originally printed some years since. Notwithstanding the care of the Russian government, to prevent any but royalists from entering their territories, yet M. de la Masseliere found means during the Revolution to penetrate to St. Petersburg, and examine the manners, customs, resources, and military strength of the dominions of the Czarina. The "Historical View," is

from the pen of V. D. Musset Pathay, who fully enters into the commercial and political connexions of the empire, and from the details concerning the present state of Russia, affects with a prophetic foresight, to decide on the future greatness of that extensive empire.

"Histoire des Guerres des Gaulois et des François et Italie."—A History of the Wars carried on by the Gauls and French in Italy, with a Description of the Civil and Military Events which occurred on this occasion. By M. AUGUSTUS JUBE, Member of the Tribunate, with a portrait of the emperor, an atlas, &c. 7 vol. 8vo.

This work is the joint production of several authors and artists. M. Jube, one of the new legislators, has written that portion of the history, which is included between the time of Bellovesus, and Louis XII. inclusive, which Joseph Servan, now a general of division, and formerly a noted member of the Constituent Assembly, had undertaken to describe that period, which intervenes between the death of Louis XII. and the peace of Amiens. Isabey and Tardieu have furnished the portrait of the emperor; Lapie, geographical engineer, has produced the maps, while Le Jeune, known by his View of the battle of Marengo, has here sketched two of the principal actions.

It is utterly impossible for us, on this occasion, to enumerate the events contained in seven octavo volumes, but they are meant in general, to be highly flattering to France. It seems to be insinuated, that while Carthage and Rome rose into eminence and disappeared from the political horizon, the Gauls remained a great and mighty nation. The Franks their conquerors, are traced from the banks of the Vistula to those of the Seine, and after giving their name to the country which they had subdued, they prepared to distinguish and to enrich themselves by foreign conquests. Like the Gauls, they also crossed the Alps and overran Italy; but although a warlike, they are allowed to have been a rude and a barbarous people, and it is acknowledged that their exploits do not possess any satisfactory results, either in respect to civil government, or military science.

In contemplating the reign of Francis I. the author is anxious to prove that France was one of the first states in Europe, that could lay any claim to civilization. His account of the political situation of Asia, Africa, and America, during the sixteenth century, is written with ability, and the revolt of the Constable



ble de Bourbon; the power and abilities of Charles V.; the battle of Pavia; the gallant conduct of the French king after that event; the campaigns of Montmorenci, &c. afford a variety of interesting details for history.

It is easy to perceive, that Italy always afforded a desirable object for the ambition of the kings of France, and it was the civil wars and disorders which prevailed during the reigns of Francis II. Charles IX. and Henry III. which alone prevented those monarchs from attempting to subjugate a country, then esteemed not only the finest, but the richest portion of Europe.

Accordingly at a future period, we behold a number of the best generals of their age, distinguishing themselves by their exploits in that country. The efforts of these, however, are all eclipsed, by the rapid marches, the able dispositions, the celebrated victories, &c. of the Emperor Napoleon, who is here flattered as equally great in art as in arms, and termed at once the wonder and the admiration of mankind!

"Voyage en Italie, &c."—An Account of a Journey to Italy, with the Particulars of a Voyage to, and Remarks on the Island of Sicily; by M. CREUZE DE LESSER, 8vo.

"Plus je vis l'étranger, plus j'aimai ma patrie."

This is the motto adopted by the present traveller, who prefers France to Italy, and indeed to all the world. The women of Rome, and the other great cities, are not only inferior to his own countrywomen, but also to those of any other nation he had ever seen before, with an exception in regard to such of the English females as repaired to Paris, immediately after the Treaty of Amiens, who in his opinion, in dress, person, and attractions, were hideous! He forgets to add, that, notwithstanding their ugliness, many of them were seized and detained, in express opposition to the law of nations, and that too by Bonaparte, in whose praise he is so lavish.

The battles of Lodi and Marengo afford ample opportunities to launch into military details, and the custom which sanctions every Italian lady of any rank, to possess two males, the one a husband, and the other a *Cicisbeo*, is described with considerable talent.

POETRY.

Some of the Parisians have been lately amusing themselves, in composing mottoes, in French and Latin, for the grand public monuments which adorn their capital.

We formerly exhibited a specimen of some of these, and now give a few others, from a corrected edition:—

*Pour le Palais des Sciences et des Arts.*

Artes hinc Templum posuere, Scientia Sedem:

Hinc sua sunt Phœbo, sua sunt altaria Musis.

La France, dans ce Temple aux Muses consacré,

Des Sciences, des Arts nourrit le feu sacré.

*Pour l'Ecole de Médecine.*

Edocet hinc aptas ægris mortalibus artes

Indulgens fidis Epidauri numen alumnis.

Esculape en ce lieu, Précepteur tutélaire,

De son art aux humains dévoile le mystère.

*Pour le Jardin des Plantes.*

Hic plantæ è variis collectæ partibus orbis

Diversis pandunt natiæ gentibus hortum.

Ici des végétaux l'assemblage divers

A fait de ce jardin celui de l'Univers.

*Pour l'Hôtel des Invalides.*

Hic, Patriæ salvæ pro libertate, dicato

Excipit Hospitio læsos pia Gallia cives, &c.

Of the Descent of Odin, from Bartholinus, we shall give a short specimen:—

"La Descente D'Odin, dans le séjour d'Hélah\*. Fragment imité de la langue norse. (L'original se trouve dans l'ouvrage de Bartholinus, intitulé De causis contemnendæ mortis. Hafniæ 1689. In-4°).

Le héros est fidèle à la voix qui le guide;  
Il se lève; et saisi d'un transport généreux,  
Il dirige les pas de son coursier rapide  
Vers l'asyle où d'Hélah est l'autel ténébreux.  
Soudain à son aspect, d'une gueule écumante,  
Le dogue de l'Enfer ouvre la profondeur;  
Puis déchire en lambeaux la dépouille sanglante

Qui palpitait encor sous sa dent en fureur.  
Mais le monstre, entouré des débris du carnage,  
Les griffes en arrêt, les yeux étincelans,  
S'est armé vainement des efforts de sa rage:  
Le charme le subjugué, et ses longs hurlemens  
N'ébranlent point le front du guerrier qui s'avance.

La terre en vain mugit et tremble sous ses pas,  
Il voit d'un œil serein, il observe en silence  
Les neuf accès profonds des portes du trépas.

Mais lorsqu'il aperçoit la porte orientale  
Il s'arrête plongé dans le recueillement;  
Et bientôt il s'assied près de l'urne fatale  
Qui couronnait le haut d'un sombre monument.

\* Hélah, déesse de la Mort, présidait dans l'Enfer des peuples gothiques. Il était composé de neuf mondes destinés à recevoir ceux qui mouraient partout ailleurs que dans les combats.

Puis trois fois, retraçant en langage-rhunique  
 Les terribles accents qui réveillent les morts,  
 Trois fois il invoqua la vierge prophétique  
 Qui depuis mille hivers habitait sur ces bords ;  
 Quand soudain il entend de la terre profonde  
 S'exhaler lentement des sons longs et plaintifs,  
 Et s'agiter au loin, dans un cortège immonde,  
 A ces récits nouveaux des spectres attentifs.

*La Prophétesse.*

“ Quels charmes inconnus, quelle voix téméraire  
 Osent troublett ainsi l'asyle des tombeaux ?  
 Qui donc ose évoquer mon ombre solitaire,  
 Et m'arracher au sein de la nuit du repos ?  
 Si du berceau des tems, les pleurs de la rosée,

La neige des hivers, la chaleur des étés,  
 Les orages nombreux de l'onde hyperborée  
 Ont frappé sur ces os par l'âge mutilés ;  
 Pour la première fois, qui donc voudrait descendre,  
 En des lieux qu'un mortel sut toujours révé-  
 rer ?

*Odin.*

Je te suis inconnu, mais respectais ta cendre.  
 Va, celui qui t'appelle est le fils d'un guerrier.  
 Hâte-toi de calmer mon ame impatiente,  
 Toi qui lis l'avenir et juge le passé ;  
 Enseigne-moi pour qui cette coupe éclatante,  
 Pour quel heureux mortel ce lit d'or fut  
 dressé ?” &c.

JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE IN THE INDIAN SEAS, &c.

*Communicated by an OFFICER on BOARD his MAJESTY'S SHIP CAROLINE.  
 (Concluded from page 545.)*

**D**EER of a very curious species are sometimes, though rarely, found in the woods of this island ; but lions, tigers, and other ferocious animals, are unknown. A tiger did once swim across from the Queda shore, and made for the mountains here, but was shot soon after his landing ; he was supposed to be the only one that ever was on the island. Birds of the most beautiful plumage are seen on almost every branch of a tree through this island ; but nature has been so very bountiful in clothing them with her most gaudy liveries, that she has thought proper to make a drawback, by depriving them of those melodious notes, which so often charm us in birds of a more homely exterior.

There is, however, one small bird on this island (whose name I forget), which perches among the leaves of the tall areca tree, and sings mornings and evenings, in a style far superior to that of any bird I have seen between the tropics.

The argus pheasant is found on this island, but they are generally brought over dried from the Malay coast, where they abound in great plenty, and are here sold for a dollar each.

With respect to the domestic animals they are but few ; and those brought from the neighbouring parts : horses from Pedir, on the coast of Sumatra ; buffaloes from Queda ; and sheep, &c. from Bengal.

The buffaloes are brought over from the opposite coast, in a very curious manner ; six or eight of them being collected together on the beach, thongs of leather, or pieces of ratan, are passed in at one nostril and out of the other, then made

fast to the sides and stern of one of the boats, which is pushed off from the shore, and the buffaloes driven into the water along with it ; these thongs or ratans keeping their noses above water, and assisting them in swimming, until they gain the opposite shore, unless seized on their passage by the alligator.

The buffalo often becomes a most dangerous animal when enraged by the heat of the sun, or any other cause, and seems then to imitate the frantic tragedy, which its savage master (the Malay) occasionally performs, when “ running the muck.” At these periods, the animal rushes furiously upon every thing in its way, and dashes into the houses, upsetting and breaking through all obstructions ; as it is possessed of great muscular strength, and runs about with impetuous velocity, there is no mode of subduing it, but by killing the animal with spears or shot.

A large one lately made a desperate sally through George town, while the gentlemen of the settlement fired on him in all directions, from their verendahs ; at length he rushed through the governor's kitchen, upsetting the cook and all his utensils ; but what was still worse, a ball from a rifle, aimed at the furious buffalo, unfortunately struck the poor harmless cook ; and between the fright occasioned by the animal, and the idea of being shot to boot, he very nearly died.

As these creatures have very little hair on their bodies ; they are utterly unable to bear the scorching rays of the sun towards mid-day : at these times, therefore they betake themselves to every pool and puddle in the neighbourhood, rolling themselves



themselves in the mud, and then lying with their nostrils just above water, until the fervency of the atmosphere has somewhat abated. On coming out from the cool retreats, they are the most uncouth and disgusting objects imaginable, having a coat of clay an inch or two in thickness, which in a few minutes is hardened by the sun into a crust that defends their hides from his powerful rays during the remainder of the day.

They are the only animals used for labour; their flesh is tolerably good, and an excrescence that grows on the top of their shoulders called a hump, when salted and well preserved, (especially in Bengal), is esteemed excellent eating; in short, it is the most useful animal in India.

Alligators are very common round the shores of this island, rendering it very unsafe to bathe on any part of the coast. Snakes of an immense size have likewise been found here by the early settlers, but are now very rare. Bahdicotes (a species of large rat,) are extremely numerous on the island, and do a great deal of mischief, as does likewise the white ant. It is astonishing what effects these very small insects are capable of producing; they will destroy the interior parts of the beams and rafters in houses; leaving a thin external shell of sound wood, that completely deceives the eye, and lulls into a false security the unsuspecting lodger, who frequently sees with astonishment the whole fabric come tumbling to the ground without any apparent cause, or perhaps, is himself involved in its ruins!

When these dangerous insects find their way on board of ships, it becomes a very serious concern; as no one can tell where they may be making their destructive burrows, perhaps through a thin plank that separates the whole crew from eternity!

In these cases there is no method of destroying them, but by sinking the vessel in shallow water for some days, until they are all drowned.

The principal useful trees, shrubs, and plants on this island, are those that bear the cocoa-nut, areca-nut, pepper, and betel.

The cocoa-nut tree is raised by burying the nut (stript of its fibrous coat), at some depth in the ground; and it is very singular that the stem is nearly as thick when it makes its appearance above ground, as it ever becomes afterwards,

though it sometime rises to the height of fifty or sixty feet.

The cocoa-nut milk forms a most delicious and wholesome beverage in the hot weather; and so does the toddy, which is this milk or juice fermented.

Plantations of these trees are very valuable, as they will rent at a dollar a tree per annum, as long as they continue to bear fruit. The fibres round the nut are the most valuable parts, of which they make the koirra cable, and rope, so much used in all the country ships.

The areca tree makes a very handsome appearance; its branches are small, but its leaves are very beautiful, forming a round tuft at the top of the trunk, which grows as strait as an arrow to the height of twenty-five or thirty feet.

The shell which contains the fruit is about the size of a walnut, and of a yellowish red colour outside, and rough within; when ripe, it is astringent, and not unpleasant to the taste.

It is needless to say how much this nut (when mixed with leaves of the betel and chunam), is used in chewing by all classes of the natives. This composition is called pinang, (whence the name of the island), and though it has an agreeable flavour, it gives the mouths of the natives who use it a most diabolical appearance, rendering what few straggling teeth they have as black as jet; while their disgusting chops seem as gory as if they had been mangling a piece of raw flesh!

The pepper-plant is a shrub whose root is small, fibrous, and flexible; it rises into a stem which requires a tree or prop to support it; its wood has the same knots as the vine, and when dry it exactly resembles the vine-branch.

The leaves, which have a strong smell and pungent taste, are of an oval shape, but they diminish towards the extremity, and end in a point. From the flower-buds, which are white, and sometimes placed in the middle, sometimes at the extremities of the branches, are produced small berries resembling those of the currant bush; each cluster contains from twenty to thirty corns of pepper: they are commonly gathered in October, and exposed to the sun seven or eight days. The fruit, which was green at first, and afterwards red, when stripped of its covering, assumes the appearance it has when we see it. It is not sown, but planted; a great nicety is required in the choice of the shoots: it produces no fruit till the end of three years, but bears

so plentifully the three succeeding years, that some plants yield six or seven pounds of pepper in that period. The bark then begins to shrink, and in twelve years time it ceases bearing.

The culture of pepper is not difficult; it is sufficient to plant it in a rich soil, and carefully pull up the weeds that grow in great abundance round its roots, especially the three first years. As the sun is highly necessary to the growth of the pepper-plant, when it is ready to bear, the trees that support it must be lopped to prevent their shade from injuring the fruit.

The betel is a species of this genus. It is a climbing and creeping plant like the ivy; and its leaves a good deal resemble those of the citron, though they are longer and narrower at the extremity. It grows in all parts of India, but thrives best in moist places; the natives cultivate it as we do the vine, placing props for it to run and climb upon; and it is a common practice to plant it against the tree that bears the areca-nut.

Fruits are plentiful on this beautiful island; the pine-apple grows wild, while shaddocks, plantains, jack-fruit, oranges, lemons, &c. are reared with the greatest ease.

In the botanical garden may be seen the cinnamon, bread-fruit, and a great variety of curious and useful trees.

Hitherto there was considerable difficulty in watering ships at this island, as the boats were obliged to go to some distance from the town to fill the casks, and that too on a beach so shelving, that they were forced to roll down the casks into the water, and parbuckle them into the boats, with incredible fatigue.

There is now, however, a conduit formed, which leads the water from the foot of the mountain down to the town, and even to the extremity of a wharf, which projects upwards of one hundred and fifty yards into the sea, and where boats may lie and have their casks filled by a hose, that leads from a cock on the wharf into the bung-holes of the casks.

This water too is of an excellent quality; as it comes directly from the waterfall, without passing through any fens or marshes, whereby it might be injured: this is a work of very great public utility, as the principal object of this settlement is the supplying our China fleets with wood and water.

Though Prince of Wales's island exports very little of its own productions, except pepper and wood, yet there is a

very considerable trade carried on here, from its being in a central situation between India, China, and the Eastern islands.

The merchants take advantage of the fleets passing and repassing, to export to China, &c. opium, betel, pepper, tin, rattans, and various other articles which they have ready collected; and for which they receive either dollars, or the productions of China and the Eastern isles, which they afterwards ship off to India, or send home to Europe, whichever they may find most advantageous.

#### PASSAGE TO MADRAS.

On the first of April I bade adieu to the pleasantest settlement in India, Prince of Wales's Island.

As this was the period at which the north-east monsoon shifts to that of the south-west, we consequently had very disagreeable and unsettled weather, especially among the Nicobar islands; where we experienced nothing but a succession of heavy squalls, calms, deluges of rain, and not unfrequently tremendous thunderstorms.

After a tedious passage we arrived in Madras roads on the twenty-first of April.

Among the various novel objects that occupy the attention of a stranger for some time after arriving in this country, I must not pass over the celebrated jugglers of India, of whom those at Madras are said to be the most expert.

It would be impossible to enumerate the various tricks which they perform with snakes, balls, cups, &c.

The great flexibility of their joints and muscles, their sober manner of living, and their unwearied application in the attainment of perfection in their art, render them much superior, in my opinion, to the Europeans in many of their legerdemain deceptions and tricks.

I shall pass over these, however, to mention one where there is no deception; but which is nevertheless one of their *chef d'œuvres*—I mean swallowing the sword.

This sword has some resemblance to a common spit in shape, except at the handle, which is merely a part of the blade itself, rounded and elongated into a little rod. It is from twenty-two to twenty-six inches in length, about an inch in breadth, and about one-fifth of an inch in thickness; the edges and point are blunt, being rounded, and of the same thickness as the rest of the blade. It is of iron or steel, smooth, and a little bright.

Having



Having been visited one day by one of these conjurors, I resolved to see clearly his mode of performing this operation; and for that purpose ordered him to seat himself on the floor of the verendah, and having satisfied myself with respect to the sword, by attempting to bend it, and by striking it against a stone, I firmly gasped it by the handle, and ordered him to proceed.

He first took out a small phial of oil, and with one of his fingers rubbed a little of it over the surface of the instrument; then stretching up his neck as much as possible, and bending himself a little backwards, he introduced the point of it into his mouth, and pushed it gently down his throat, until my hand, which was on the handle, came in contact with his lips!

He then made a sign with one of his hands, for me to feel the point of the instrument, between his breast and navel, which I could plainly do, by bending him a little more backwards, and pressing my fingers on his stomach, he being a very thin and lean fellow.

On letting go the handle of the sword, he instantly fixed on it a little machine that spun round, and disengaged a small firework, which, encircling his head with a blue flame, gave him as he then sat, a truly diabolical appearance!

On withdrawing the instrument, several parts of its surface were covered with blood, which shewed that he was still obliged to use a degree of violence in the introduction.

He told me, that he had been accustomed from his early years to introduce at first small elastic instruments down his throat and into his stomach; that by degrees he had used larger and larger ones, until at length he was able to use the present iron sword.

As I mentioned before, the great flexibility of their joints and muscles, the laxness of their fibres, and their temperate mode of life, render them capable of having considerable violence done to the fleshy parts of their bodies, without any danger of the inflammation, and other bad effects, which would be produced in the irritable bodies of Europeans. Witness their being whirled round on the point of a pole, suspended by a hook, thrust into the fleshy part of their backs, without experiencing any fatal consequences.

There is therefore, no great wonder, if by long habit, and stretching up their necks, they are able to bring the different

windings of the passage from the mouth to the stomach into a straight line or nearly so; and thereby slide down the sword into the latter organ without much difficulty.

From a number of ingenious and useful experiments made on the poison of serpents, by Mr. William Boag, surgeon on the Bombay establishment, I cannot help extracting the following curious particulars, which must gratify the curiosity of every reader.

Mr. B. begins by observing that by far the greatest number of serpents are not venomous. Gmelin describes two hundred and nineteen different kinds of snakes; of which Linnæus informs us, that only about one in ten is poisonous. We likewise know that many snakes are not poisonous to man, though they may be destructive to lesser animals.

It would be a desirable thing to be able to ascertain, from the appearance of a snake, whether it be poisonous or not; but these reptiles so nearly resemble one another, that it is impossible, without great experience, to distinguish them. The skin on the belly and tail of serpents is composed of scales, which vary in number and arrangement, in different serpents; and the colour, which is most attended to, is a very fallacious mark, for it commonly changes with age. A serpent with a large head is generally suspected to be venomous; but the mark which is chiefly to be depended on, are the large canine teeth or fangs, fixed in the upper jaw, which are commonly two in number, but sometimes more. These teeth are covered with a membranous sheath; and are crooked, moveable, and hollow, to give passage to the venom, which they receive from a small reservoir, that runs along the palate of the mouth, and passes through the body of each fang. This reservoir contains but a small quantity of venom, which is forced out of it when the animal attempts to bite, by a strong muscle, fixed on the upper jaw for that purpose. It has been well observed by Linnæus, that if nature has thrown them naked on the ground, destitute of limbs, and exposed to every misery, she has in return supplied them with a deadly poison, the most terrible of all weapons!

The symptoms which arise from the bite of a serpent, are commonly pain, swelling, and redness in the part bitten; great faintness with sickness at stomach, and sometimes vomiting, succeed; the breathing becomes short and laborious; the pulse low, quick, and interrupted.

The wound, which was at first red, becomes livid, black, and gangrenous; the skin of the wounded limb, and sometimes of the whole body, takes a yellow hue; cold sweats and convulsions come on; and the patient sinks sometimes in a few hours, but commonly at the end of two, three, or four days.

This is the usual progress when the disease terminates fatally; but happily the patient will most commonly recover; a reflection which should moderate the fears of those who happen to be bitten by snakes; and which, at any rate, should, as much as possible, be resisted, as the depressing passion of fear will in all cases assist the operation of the poison.

With respect to the manner in which the poison acts upon the human body, it must be allowed, that this is a very interesting question; a great variety of opinions have arisen, and hardly any subject is less understood.

Late physicians, supported by the respectable authority of Dr. Mead, observing how suddenly death ensues after the bite, have concluded that the venom must act through the medium of the nerves only.

But the celebrated Fontana has combated this doctrine, by demonstrating, from a variety of experiments on different animals, that the venom of the viper is perfectly innocent, when applied to the nerves only; that it produces in them no sensible change, and they are incapable of conveying the poison to the animal. On the other hand, he has shewn distinctly, that it acts immediately upon the blood; and through the medium of this fluid, it destroys the irritability of the muscular fibres, and produces death.

After some observations on the nature of the blood and atmospherical air, Mr. B. advances a conjecture, that the poison of serpents acts upon the blood, by attracting the oxygen, which it receives from the air in its passage through the lungs, and upon which its vitality depends.

In support of this opinion he adduces the following arguments: 1. Man and other warm-blooded animals, exposed to an atmospheric air deprived of oxygen, quickly expire. The poison of a serpent, when introduced into the blood, also causes death; but carried into the circulation by a wound, and in very small quantity, its operation is comparatively slow.

2. The appearances on dissection, in both cases are very similar; the blood be-

comes of a darker hue, and coagulates about the heart and larger vessels; the irritability of the fibres is destroyed in both cases, and the body has a strong tendency to putrefaction.

Mr. B. observes, that the venom of serpents has a much greater effect on warm, than cold-blooded animals: the reason of which he supposes to be this: "that cold-blooded animals do not require so large a proportion of oxygen, to preserve them in health, as warm-blooded animals do."

After enumerating the variety of opinions, and various remedies in use among the older physicians, he proceeds to take notice of the modern remedies; and first of the volatile alkali.

This is the remedy most commonly used by physicians, both here and in Europe. But the belief which formerly prevailed, that it possessed some specific power, which corrected the poison, seems now exploded. It seems to have no other effect than that of being a stimulus.

A ligature should as soon as possible be tied above the bitten part, so as to impede, but not entirely to stop the circulation of the blood; for the bite of a serpent is for the most part superficial, and the poison is carried into the circulation by the smaller vessels on the surface. The wound should next be scarified and washed with a solution of lunar caustic in water. I would prefer for this purpose a weak solution; as it may be used more freely, and frequently repeated: the same medicine should likewise be given internally, and repeated at intervals, as circumstances may point out.

I know, from experience, that half a grain of lunar caustic, dissolved in two ounces of water, may be taken two or three times a day, and its use be persisted in for several days with safety. To these means might be added (if the symptoms are not relieved), a warm bath, acidulated with nitrous acid. In this bath, which should be made sufficiently strong to produce a very sensible irritation on the skin, the wounded limb, and a great part of the body, might be placed for half an hour, and repeated as circumstances might direct.

Having procured a snake, a large *cobra de capello*, with the venomous teeth and poison-bag entire, the following experiments were made;

1. The snake was made to bite a young dog in the hind leg, and for which no medicine, either internal or external, was made use of. The dog upon being bit howled



howled violently for a few minutes; the wounded limb soon became paralytic; in ten minutes the dog lay senseless and convulsed; in thirteen minutes he was dead.

2. A dog of a smaller size and younger was bitten in the hind leg, when he was instantly plunged into the warm nitre bath, prepared on purpose. The wound was scarified and washed with the solution of lunar caustic; while some of it was poured down his throat. The dog died in the same time, and with the same symptoms, as the former.

3. After an interval of one day, the same snake was made to bite a young puppy in the hind leg; but above the part bitten a ligature was previously tied: the wound was scarified, &c. as in the other. The dog did not seem to feel any other injury than that arising from the ligature round his leg; half an hour after being bitten, the ligature dressing, &c. were removed. The dog soon began to sink; breathed quick, got convulsed, and died."

4 and 5. Two other dogs were bitten; and the wounds simply scarified, and dressed with the lunar caustic, they continued well for two hours; but died in the course of the day.

8. A dog being bitten by the snake, the wound was washed with volatile alkali; and the same medicine given internally, diluted with water, and repeated at intervals. This dog was shortly after convulsed and died in three hours. Another with the same means used, died in eighteen minutes.

12. A young puppy was bitten in the ear, and exactly half a minute afterwards the ear was cut off. The wound bled freely; the dog continued well for half an hour, then drooped, and in half an hour more died.

These experiments will perhaps serve little other purpose than to prove the quick and destructive operations of the poison of this kind of serpents, and of the inefficacy of the most celebrated remedies, which have hitherto been discovered.

It is certain however, that upon larger animals the progress would have been neither so rapid nor destructive; and upon the human body it is also probable, that the remedies might have had greater success.

The *eau de luce* has lately been found to have the very best effects in bites of serpents on the human body.

It is somewhat singular, that at Ma-

dras, and on the Coromandel coast in general, there are hardly any other diseases but those of the liver; while at Bengals that disorder is not so frequent; but there are several others which make up for this deficiency.

It has been supposed that the dry sandy soil of the Coromandel coast tends, by reflecting the heat of the sun, to produce liver complaints; while the low marshy grounds of Bengal, on the other hand, are more favourable to the production of fevers, &c.

Madras does not experience the little winter which Bengal does in December and January; but it is more refreshed by sea-breezes, than the latter place can possibly be, on account of its inland situation.

It has been a question, what constitutions are best adapted to stand the effects of this climate; the gross, the lean, the sprightly, or the serious? If I can trust to my own observations, I would say the gross and sprightly: as I have generally seen the moping, melancholy, lean, and irritable people, the first affected with sickness.

There are some very pleasant roads about Madras; that however which leads out to the Mount is extremely beautiful, being lined with trees on each side, whose foliage is so close, that in the evenings and mornings the sun is completely excluded, and of course at these seasons, the road is crowded with all ranks and descriptions of people, both Europeans and natives.

St. Thomas's Mount is a pleasant little elevation, in the shape of a cone, on the summit of which is a Portuguese chapel, and a house for the *Padré* who officiates here; it is about six or seven miles from Madras, in a westerly direction, and forms the principal land-mark for ships approaching this settlement from the southward, the white buildings on its top making a conspicuous figure.

It is believed by the Portuguese that St. Thomas suffered martyrdom in a cave on this mount; having fled from his persecutors, he was discovered here and transfixed by the lance of a Brahmin. The *padré* shews a painting representing this transaction, and likewise points out the spot where it is said to have happened.

From this place there is a very fine view of Madras and its environs, with an extensive prospect of the Coromandel coast, along the whole of which, the surf breaking in three distinct lines and the

Massula

Massula boats crossing it in various directions, form a very interesting picture.

Notwithstanding the great heat of the climate, the Pantheon at Madras exhibits, once a week, a brilliant assemblage of our fair country-women; who having bravely traversed an immense ocean, cheerfully reside on the sultry shores of Hindostan, to solace our countrymen during their long absence from their native isle!

It is really a pleasing sight to behold this lovely group forming a most singular contrast with the swarthy attendants behind them. Besides this public assembly, there are frequent private ones; and the Hon. Basil Cochrane, whose hospitable doors are always open, gives a ball and supper once a week to the ladies and gentlemen of the settlement, the officers of the army, navy, &c.

On the 2d of June, I embarked for Vizagapatam, where we arrived in three days. The following are light sketches of the principal places on this coast, where European ships touch.

All the coast from cape Comorin to Calymere point, and from thence to Godavery, is flat and sandy: this sort of appearance in some places runs far inland, and often insulates naked rocks and sugar-loaf peaks. From Calymere point the coast runs almost due north (swelling out a little about midway), as far as the mouth of the Kistna river, in latitude  $16^{\circ}$  north.

Negapatam is a very inconsiderable place of trade, but frequently touched at by ships for bullocks and stock. There is a considerable surf at this place, and Europeans should be very cautious how they go on shore in ships' boats.

Tranquebar, in latitude  $11^{\circ}$  north, is the next place of note. It belongs to the Danes, who first made a settlement here in 1617, and now carry on a flourishing trade in the manufactures of the country.

Four miles distant from fort St. David, is the famous banian tree, or ficus Indica, under the shade of which, Mr. Ives says, a Mr. Doige computed that ten thousand men might stand without incommoding themselves, allowing six men to a yard square! Several people have built houses under the arches, which have been formed by the limbs dropping down, which take root and become other trees united to the first. The arches which these different stocks make might be called Gothic, being somewhat like those in Westminster-hall.

From Kistna point the land turns a few

miles to the northward, and finishes with that of Divi, projecting from an isle formed by the river; this, with another point about fifty miles distant, makes a fine semilunar bay, a tract now divided between Condapilly and Ellore.

Almost immediately within point Divi, lies Masulipatam, in latitude  $16^{\circ} 3'$  north. The coast is low, the bottom oozy, and the tide rises about four feet. It was anciently an emporium, famous for its commerce; being happy in a harbour capable of receiving ships of considerable burden, and the only one from Cape Comorin to this place capable of receiving ships of three hundred tons.

Coringa is a small settlement, originally French, situated on the banks of the Godavery, and a place of very little note. The country here is so low, that an inundation took place from the sea about twenty years ago, which destroyed upwards of ten thousand of the inhabitants. Coringa is likely to become of considerable importance, as a wet dock has been formed on the bank of the river capable of taking in our largest frigates; and is the only place of the kind between Bombay and Bengal. A bar of mud, however, lies across the entrance of the river, through which vessels are obliged to be dragged with immense force.

Having thus given sketches of the principal places on this coast, I shall conclude by observing that from Coringa, at the mouth of the Godavery, northward to Ganjam, the coast is, generally speaking, mountainous; and again, from Coringa southward, low, flat, and sandy, with a few exceptions, such as the Pulicat hills, and some detached mounts about Madras, Sadras, &c.

Ill health now forcing me to leave the ship, and having obtained a passage from Madras to Bengal, in the American brig Caravan, I arrived in the Ganges on the twenty-first of October, 1805.

In the short space of two years, I could perceive that Calcutta had increased in size: the Government-House was now completely finished and looked uncommonly well; but, the Marquis Cornwallis's decease had spread an universal gloom through all ranks of people in this settlement.

This great Statesman and General died at the village of Gazeepour, situated on the banks of the Ganges, about six hundred miles above Calcutta; and his remains were interred on the spot without pomp or ceremony by the few attendants who composed his suite. At the moment



of his interment a thunder-storm took place, the most tremendous that was ever recollected in that part of the country; and it seemed as though the elements themselves expressed their sorrow in loud accents. The inhabitants of Calcutta, with their usual liberality, are about to erect a monument to the memory of the departed hero on the spot where he died.

On the third of November his Majesty's ship *Medusa* weighed anchor from Saugur roads, in order to convey the melancholy tidings to England, and I became one of her company. I shall not trouble the reader with a dull diary of "winds and weather" on this voyage, but transport him at one gigantic stride, from the Ganges to the Cape of Good Hope, a distance of six thousand six hundred and forty-eight miles, which we traversed in forty-one days. On the fourteenth of December we passed in sight of the Cape, and shaped our course for St. Helena. As this is only a small island in the midst of a vast ocean, and distant nearly two thousand miles from the Cape of Good Hope, it would seem rather wonderful that ships have not frequently missed it, especially before lunars and chronometers were brought at their present degree of perfection.

As we could depend on our calculations, we steered a direct course; and on the ninth day from the Cape, we saw the island at sun-rise, distant about fifteen leagues.

On approaching it from the S. E. it appears like a lofty irregular ridge of rocks; the northern extremity of which is very abrupt, and the southern more shelving: at a small distance from the latter, there are two rocks called the "Needles," one of which bears a striking resemblance to a large ship under sail; so much so, that the man at the mast-head gave notice of a ship in-shore.

On drawing near the land, this island appears girt with a chain of inaccessible precipices, behind which, craggy and barren mountains shoot up to a great height, on whose summits are placed telegraphs, to give notice when ships are approaching.

Some of the rocks that form this chain, are split down to their bases, disclose chasms which are hideous to behold; while others assume the most fantastic shapes, resembling castles, towers, &c. We now steered for a high promontory called Barn's Point, which we passed at the distance of a cable's length: it is

the most stupendous cliff I ever beheld, being nearly perpendicular, and fifteen or sixteen-hundred feet high. From hence we steered close along shore for Sugar-loaf hill and point; on the peak of the former there is a telegraph, and on a jutting crag of the latter, about 80 or 90 feet above the level of the sea, there is a small battery of three or four guns, to compel vessels to heave-to and "send their boats on shore." The latter words are painted in large letters, on a black board, in a conspicuous part of the battery, and written in three different languages.

The officer at this station has orders, when a ship draws near the point, to fire a gun at her with blank cartridge. If she disregards this, he is to fire a shot athwart her bow, that is, a-head of her; if she still persists, he is to fire right into her: after which all the other batteries open in succession.

Having hove-to, and sent a boat ashore to announce the name of the ship, we presently filled, and made sail for the anchorage; passing close to Rupert's Valley and several ranges of batteries formed among the precipices.

On rounding Rupert's Hill, James-town and Valley presented themselves, a-breast of which we anchored, at about a quarter of a mile from the beach. While the ship and fort were saluting each other, the reverberations of sound among the rocks and mountains, resembled the loudest peals of thunder, and, joined to the novelty of the surrounding prospects, formed a striking contrast to the monotonous scenery to which our eyes had been accustomed since our departure from India.

James's Valley is formed by two craggy ridges, called Rupert's and Ladder-hill, which gradually receding from each other, as they approach the sea, at length terminate at its edge, in two stupendous and almost perpendicular cliffs; leaving an intermediate triangular space, about a mile and half in length, and two hundred and fifty yards broad at its base.

This base is a fortified line, extending from cliff to cliff, and mounting thirty pieces of heavy cannon, nearly level with the water's edge. Immediately behind this line, the government-house and church are situated; from whence the town extends up the valley, which gradually decreasing in breadth, leaves at last only room for a single house.

In this small space, however, there are several little gardens, groves, and  
shady

shady walks, that add to the neat appearance of the town, the houses of which are handsomely built in the English style, generally two stories high, and well white-washed. Upon the whole it greatly resembles a pretty little country town in England, the inhabitants, language, and manners being all English.

Looking up from the streets towards Rupert's and Ladder-hill, the scene is awfully sublime! The stranger shudders to behold enormous masses of rock, impending on each side of the valley from a prodigious height, and which, from their wild fractured appearance, seem every instant ready to hurl destruction on the town below!

St. Helena Bay, being formed by two projecting promontories, and situated on the Lee side of the Island, is of course, completely sheltered from the S. E. trade winds by the mountains, and protected from the long swell of the southern ocean, by the island itself. It thus affords a safe and commodious anchorage for our ships, which lie close to the rocks, in water as smooth as glass.

Fresh water distils down from the crevices in the rocks, and being collected in a reservoir, under Rupert's hill, ships' boats can lie at the jetty side there and have the hoses led into the casks.

When all these circumstances are kept in mind, and we take a view of the town, the valley, and surrounding rocks, from the roads, we find no bad description of the whole, in the first book of the *Æneid*, where *Æneas*, after the storm, lands near the port of Carthage.

"Within a deep recess there lies a bay,  
An island shades it from the rolling sea,  
And forms a port secure for ships to ride:  
Broke by the jutting land on either side,  
In double streams, the briny waters glide,  
Betwixt two rugged rocks: a sylvan scene  
Appears below, and groves for ever green.

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Down through the crannies in the living  
walls,

The crystal streams descend in murm'ring  
falls,

No halsers need to bind the vessels here,

Nor crooked anchors for NO STORMS THEY  
FEAR."

*Dryden's Translation.*

As our stay in this place was limited to forty-eight hours, we had no time to lose; and accordingly a party of us having procured horses, we started from Jamestown, at day-break on the 24th December, in order to make a tour through the island.

We commenced our journey by ascending Ladder-hill, a precipice, which, at first sight, seems designed by nature as a barrier that would for ever defy the human race to scale; yet human industry has, by incredible exertions in blowing up the rocks, formed a zig-zag path to its summit.

About midway we stopped to take a view of the town, which, even from this height, looks like one in miniature; the streets resembling those formed by the little houses which we see in toy-shops; the whole assuming such a mimic appearance, that a person would be almost tempted to think, he could cover a considerable part of the town with one of his hands.

On Ladder-hill are mounted twenty-two or twenty-four pieces of cannon; some ranged along the brow of the cliff, that overhangs the town, and some along that which overlooks the roads.

Six or seven of these are mounted on depressing carriages, so as to fire right down into the town and roads, thereby completely commanding those places; the rest are mounted on common carriages, and serve the purpose of a saluting battery. Over these precipices few of us would venture to look.

From hence we proceeded for High Knowl, over a tract which may be termed sterility itself; every step we ascended, presenting new views of rocks and mountains, congregated on each side in the wildest order, and without exhibiting an atom of vegetation! Such is the prospect when within a few paces of the summit of High Knowl, and which is finely contrasted with the glassy surface of an immense expanse of ocean, which the great height of the place enables the eye to survey.

We now ascended to the tower on the top of the Knowl, which we no sooner reached, than all this rude scenery instantly vanished like magical delusion, leaving the eye to range over a series of beautiful little vallies, groves, and lawns, verdant as the spring, and affording luxuriant pasturage to the flocks and herds that strayed among them.

Throughout this prospect were interspersed small plantations, gardens, and handsome little country-houses; the whole surrounded by a lofty irregular ridge of hills and precipices, that formed a grand outline and striking contrast to the picturesque scenes they enclosed.

Here our attention was chained for some time; at length we descended the south side of the Knowl, which is rather steep,



steep, and soon arrived at the governor's country residence, called Plantation House. It is situated on the side of a pleasant little valley, with small plantations and gardens adjoining, and commands a very fine prospect of the sea: in my opinion, however, the situation does no great credit to the taste of the person who first pitched upon it, as it is much inferior to many places which we afterwards saw: its proximity to the town, was probably the cause of its being preferred.

Our road now took a winding direction, along the declivities of little hills, whose green sides sloping down to the principal valley on the left, formed a number of little glens and dells, from whose beauty one would be almost tempted to pronounce them the favourite haunts of fairies. We could not help stopping at every turning of the road, to admire this interesting landscape, whose prominent features were perpetually varying, from the different points of view in which they were seen.

After a pleasant ride of about an hour, we came to Sandy-Bay Ridge, over which we were to pass in our way to the bay of the same name. When near its summit, we halted for a few minutes, in order to take a farewell look at the northern prospect, not expecting to see any thing like it on the island again. What then must have been our surprize, when, on mounting the ridge, a scene burst upon our view, as much superior to the one we had so reluctantly left, as that one was to a dreary heath? But I shall not attempt to give a description of it. Had Dr. Johnson, when writing his Prince of Abyssinia, been seated on Sandy-Bay Ridge, he might have described from nature a valley more beautifully romantic, than even his own fertile imagination has been able to form for young Rasselas.

Nature must certainly have been in one of her good-humoured and most whimsical, creative moods, when she formed this bay; and indeed St. Helena altogether, where she has strewed the sublime and beautiful, with a hand liberal even to profusion, though in a very small space.

On this ridge we alighted, and permitted our horses to feed for some time on the rich pasture with which it is crowned, in order that we might survey at leisure the romantic landscape which lay stretched before us, painted by the great hand of Nature.

Although I will not attempt to give any general description of this place, yet

I cannot help taking notice of some particular parts.

Among the rude features of the southern side, one's attention is arrested by two huge rocks of fantastic shapes, which from this point of view seem to stand close to each other, and have got the names of "Lot and his Wife." The former, which is by far the more curious of the two, shoots up to a giddy height from a rugged foundation near the sea, in the form of a huge natural pyramid, or tower, of a most singular and stupendous appearance.

We now descended to the valley by a steep winding path, and were amply repaid for our journey by the beauty of the prospect from this new point of view.

We left major D——'s seat on the right, and it appears by far the most elegant one on the island. About the middle of the valley, we were met by captain G——, who inviting us into his chateau (as he called it), seemed determined on his part, to wipe off any aspersions of inhospitality that might have been cast on the inhabitants of this island; by not only preparing to gratify our present appetites, but by pressing us to stop and spend our Christmas with him.

Indeed we began to perceive, that, though we had feasted our imaginations most luxuriously on the romantic scenes which we passed; yet our selfish stomachs, so far from being satisfied with this ideal banquet, were now, on the contrary, become very troublesome companions; and had it not been for the hospitality of captain G——, I do believe we should have returned to town in a very chaf-fallen condition, full of the most gloomy ruminations, and without stopping to admire a single beauty on the road!

Be that as it may, we did not now hesitate to do ample justice to the festive board, making such repeated applications to our kind host's "*Anno Domini*," (in which the old gentleman faithfully pledged us,) that we were soon in such a state of exhilaration, that we determined to "climb the mountain-top," and prosecute our tour up to Diana's Peak, the *ne plus ultra*, or highest part of St. Helena.

Remounting therefore, we ascended Sandy-Bay Ridge, and turning to the right, proceeded in an easterly direction, until the steepness and ruggedness of the ascent, with the closeness of the under-wood, obliged us to dismount. After an hour's scrambling, climbing, and tearing through the bushes (during which some of the party gave it up entirely), we arrived at the summit of the peak; which

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being nearly in the centre of the island, and two thousand seven hundred feet above the level of the sea, commands a complete view of St. Helena, and a great extent of ocean, in every direction, bounded only by the far distant horizon.

Here the detached scenes and prospects, which we had been admiring severally, were now, with many others, brought into one *coup d'œil*, and certainly formed a most interesting picture; every point of the compass presenting, as it were, a new landscape, distinguished by some striking feature in the outline, or beautiful little valley in front; the whole forming a most superb panorama, painted by a hand which defied all human imitation.

The light flying clouds, which would frequently come sailing along on the S. E. breeze, and involve us in a momentary gloom, considerably heightened the effect of this picturesque scenery, by snatching it, as it were, for a few minutes at a time, entirely from our view; when again, by their sudden dispersion, the whole variegated prospect would lie extended before us.

The air on this peak, and indeed on all the hills of the island, was as cool as it usually is in the month of April in England; though it was now the middle of summer here, and the sun nearly vertical at mid-day.

We need not wonder at this, when we consider, that the perpetual breeze, blowing over an immense extent of ocean, becomes quite cool before it reaches this island, whose elevated mountains attracting and condensing the passing clouds, are constantly moist; and hence the evaporation from their summits is another cause of coolness in the air.

We now descended by a rugged ridge to a telegraph station, called "Halley's Mount," where we were informed the celebrated Dr. Halley had pitched his tent, many years ago, to observe the transit of Venus over the sun's disk. From hence we went down another shattered ridge, on each side of which there was a deep ravine, that made us almost dizzy to look into. At length we came to Side Path, a narrow road cut along the side of a steep defile, which led us at last to James' Valley, where we arrived at sunset, very much fatigued, yet highly gratified with our twelve hours' excursion.

On repairing to the only inn St. Helena affords (the master of which officiates in the triple capacity of inn-keeper, manager of the theatre, and principal performer), we requested a beefsteak or mutton-chop, with all expedition, as the

keen air of the mountains had given us pretty keen appetites. The Roscius of St. Helena, after surveying us for some time with astonishment, and throwing himself into a theatrical attitude, exclaimed, "Good god, gentlemen! you must have a very imperfect idea of the extent to which humanity towards the brute creation is carried in this island! Why, gentlemen, there is more ceremony, more caution, used here in cutting the throat of a bullock or a sheep, than there is in cutting the throat of a citizen in some of your European countries! In fact, gentlemen, no inhabitant can put to death one of his own animals, without the express permission of the governor in council."

"The deuce take your Pythagorean humanity," cried we; "so we must starve, forsooth, on account of your affected lenity to a paltry sheep or bullock." "Not so," replied the hero of the buskin; "British tars will surely not complain of starving, when there is good salt junk and plenty of grog at their service."

Though we were not perfectly of our host's opinion, we were nevertheless obliged to put up with what he could give us; and the addition of a fish proved highly acceptable after our fatiguing journey.

The island of St. Helena was first discovered by the Portuguese, in 1508, on the twenty-first of May, which is St. Helen's feast; and hence the name of the island. The English formed a settlement on it in 1660; and a few years afterwards it was taken by the Dutch, from whom it was retaken by the English under captain Munden, in 1674, and has ever since remained in the hands of the East India Company.

It is about a thousand miles to the southward of the line, and nearly the same distance from the African continent. The coast describes an irregular indented line, which from point to point measures twenty-eight miles in circumference; its greatest length is about ten miles, and breadth six or seven.

It is in most places fortified by nature; and where not so, they have guns to point on every spot that is at all accessible. We were told that there were between four and five hundred pieces of cannon mounted on the different batteries round the island; and that they could turn out between fourteen and fifteen hundred regular troops, independent of militia, which might amount to a thousand more. The total population on the island may be about six thousand souls.

They are vigilant on the approach of a fleet; and as no boats could land to windward



ward of the island, on account of the surf, while guns are placed on every crag and eminence to leeward, it would be a very difficult matter to take the island.

Though black cattle thrive remarkably well here, yet from the small extent of pasture-grounds which the island affords, the government is obliged to limit the inhabitants in the use of flesh-meat; in order that the island may serve the purpose for which it is kept at a great expence by the Company, namely, to afford refreshments and water to the homeward-bound ships.

On this account the military and servants are only allowed fresh beef or mutton four times a year; at each of these periods the former have three, and the latter have five fresh meals. The gentlemen of course have them frequently, though with some restrictions. This inconvenience, however, is amply compensated for, by the great abundance of vegetables produced on the island, and the shoals of fish that surround its shores. Potatoes are reared here in such abundance, that ships might be freighted with them; and their quality is not inferior to that of English potatoes. Among the culinary vegetables, the cabbages of this island are remarkably fine. No grain, I believe, is sown in any part of St. Helena.

It is somewhat singular, that on this island the order of nature seems to be in some respects inverted; for we see the summits and sides of the loftiest mountains clothed with fertility and verdure; while the lesser hills, and even the valleys, become barren as they approach the sea.

This circumstance is easily accounted for, when we consider that all the lofty peaks are perpetually watered by the passing clouds; many of which being arrested in their progress, and condensed on the brows of the mountains, prove to them a never-failing source of fertility, which is totally denied to the lower hills and valleys; rain being a very rare phenomenon on this island.

The climate of St. Helena is remarkably salubrious, and conducive to longevity: the temperature of the air being very moderate, considering its situation within the tropics, where the sun is vertical twice a year. From the great inequality of the surface of this island, there is considerable diversity in its climate; the thermometer on the heights frequently sinking below  $54^{\circ}$ ; while in James's Valley it is sometimes above  $84^{\circ}$ .

There are no land and sea breezes here, the island not being sufficiently large, nor capable of acquiring a tempe-

rature that would produce those diurnal winds. The south-east trade, therefore, (excepting at those periods when the sun is vertical,) blows constantly over the island with a steady and uniform force. Storms, rain, thunder, and lightning are consequently very rare occurrences, and never happen but when the sun is passing over the island in his annual course.

The greatest inconvenience which St. Helena is subject to, is drought; which has been known to continue for three years, and prove a great scourge to the island; killing the cattle, destroying the trees, and withering every appearance of vegetation. It is supposed that the paucity of the latter, is a great cause of this deficiency in moisture; consequently they are endeavouring to spread vegetation and plant trees, as much as possible, over the arid rocks near the shore.

It is remarked by the inhabitants, that storms, attended with thunder, lightning, and rain, occur about once in ten or twelve years, sometimes doing great mischief; the rocks and crags being loosened and dislodged by the rain, sweep away at those times the little farms and gardens situated on the declivities.

It is a singular circumstance, that men and animals are here exempt from two of the greatest evils that have ever visited society in the shape of disease: I mean the small-pox and hydrophobia, which have never made their appearance on this island.

Many humorous stories are told of the locality of ideas, which may be remarked among the inhabitants of St. Helena; of which I shall only mention one instance.

"A lady, one day in conversation with the captain of an India-man, asked him, if London was not very dull when the East-India fleet left England?"

This, though it may excite our risibility, was a very natural question from one who had always seen the arrival of this fleet produce so much festivity throughout her native island.

We took leave of this curious island on Christmas-day, and on the 26th of January, 1806, we saw the snow-topped hills of Cornwall; after a voyage, hitherto without a parallel in the annals of navigation, the *Medusa* having run from the Ganges to the Lizard in eighty-four days, two of which were spent at anchor in St. Helena roads; consequently she was only eighty-two days under sail, in which time she traversed the immense space of thirteen thousand eight hundred and thirty-one miles.

GENERAL

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J. ADLARD, Printer, Duke-street.





